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CEMA Economic Meeting in Sofia Ends

AU021820 Sofia BTA in English 1719 GMT 2 Sep 87

[Text] Sofia, September 2 (BTA) — Proceeding from the considerations advanced at the Moscow conference of the fraternal parties' leaders in November 1986, the participants in the two-day meeting of secretaries in charge of economic affairs of the central committees of the communist and the workers' parties in the CMEA member countries, which ended here today, considered the suggestions made within the framework of the community for a restructuring of the mechanism of cooperation and of socialist economic integration.

It was indicated at the meeting that as a result of the fulfillment of the resolutions adopted by the fraternal parties at their respective congresses and of a number of agreements, the CMEA states have advanced in their economic development. Production is becoming more efficient above all thanks to the growing productivity of labour. High technologies, automation and mechanization are being introduced. The material and cultural standards of the fraternal countries' peoples are on the rise. Cooperation between them is ever more active, and reciprocal trade is increasing. The Comprehensive Programme for the CMEA Members' Scientific and Technological Progress Up To the Year 2000 is being successfully implemented.

The participants in the meeting emphasised that cooperation within the community framework and the perfection of the mechanism of interaction should contribute more substantially to the attainment of the strategic goals in economic and social growth.

It was observed that with the assistance of the CMEA European members, Vietnam, Cuba and Mongolia are realizing initiatives intended to upgrade their economic capabilities. Along with that, it was pointed out that there are opportunities for improved cooperation and for more efficient participation of those states in socialist economic integration. This cooperation is called upon to accelerate the process of Vietnam, Cuba and Mongolia drawing level in their economic development with the European members of the community.

The improvement of cooperation is aimed at allowing a more efficient use of the advantages of the international division of labour, at strengthening the positions of the fraternal states in the world economy. Special importance is attached to the wide-ranging involvement of economic organizations in all spheres of cooperation, including the establishment of direct links between them. The measures are to help enhance the planned interaction and the mutual complementing of the CMEA states' economies.

The meeting further considered the question of working out a collective concept of international socialist division of labour for the 1991-2005 period with a view to determining the coordinated areas of further perfection of cooperation. Emphasis was laid on the importance of coordinating economic policies in the fields which have a bearing on cooperation. Attention was called to the instruments of planning and commodity-money relations, to monetary and credit relations.

It is deemed necessary to enhance CMEA's organisational role, to improve the structure of the Council's bodies and to concentrate its work on deciding matters of strategy in cooperation.

The participants in the meeting stressed the immense importance of the Great October Socialist Revolution, which opened a new era in the history of mankind.

The CMEA states reaffirmed their willingness to seek an end to the arms race, disarmament, especially in the nuclear field, and the reallocation of the enormous resources released as a result of disarmament for the purposes of development.

The community states stressed their determination to promote cooperation with all socialist states and to maintain mutually beneficial economic relations with all countries irrespective of their social systems. The CMEA states favour an exclusion from international relations of all discriminatory acts whatsoever, as well as of all attempts at an economic diktat: embargoes, boycotts, trade, credit and technological blockades.

The need was further stressed for a global solution to the problems of economic backwardness, of the developing countries' foreign debts, of the establishment of a new international economic order.

The CMEA members invariably stand by their position on establishing formal relations between the community and the EC, between the states of CMEA and the EC. This will help strengthen their political and economic relations and the material base for building detente and mutual trust in Europe, for an improvement of the international situation as a whole.

CEMA Engineering Committee Concludes Work

LD031840 Warsaw PAP in English 1357 GMT 3 Sep 87

[Text] Warsaw, Sept 3: The Bureau of the CMEA Committee for Cooperation in Engineering wound up their fifth meeting today, with the participation of delegations of the member-states and Yugoslavia.

The sides coordinated their joint policies for the period 1991-95 and took decisions promoting progress in their engineering industries with a view to eliminating deficit in this field.

U.S. Congressmen Meet Lukanov in Plovdiv

AU031939 Sofia BTA in English 1850 GMT 3 Sep 87

[Text] Sofia, September 3 (BTA) — The visit to Bulgaria by the members of the House of Representatives of the U.S. Congress Mr Steny Hoyer and Mr William Richardson and by Under-Secretary of State Mr Richard Shifter, continues.

Today the congressmen visited the town of Kurdzhali. At a meeting with the leadership of the municipality they were acquainted in detail with the socioeconomic development of the region and with its cultural, educational and historical traditions.

The guests spoke with inhabitants of the town and visited private houses. Mr Steny Hoyer, member of the House of Representatives of the U.S. Congress, said: "The people of Kurdzhali are very friendly and we were given a warm welcome. We hope that our visit will contribute to better mutual understanding and to the promotion of the contacts between the two countries."

Before visiting Kurdzhali the American guests visited the towns of Plovdiv and Khaskovo. At meetings with the local leaderships they were acquainted with topical issues of the reconstruction taking place in this country.

In Plovdiv, at a meeting with Mr Andrey Lukanov, minister of foreign economic relations, they were acquainted with the reconstruction of the Bulgarian economy and particularly with the possibilities for broadening Bulgaro-American cooperation. The meeting stressed Bulgaria's readiness to promote the trade and economic relations and joint production with American companies.

Lukanov Comments on Foreign Trade Relations

AU031429 Sofia BTA in English 1338 GMT 3 Sep 87

[Text] Sofia, September 3 (BTA) — Bulgaria and her CMEA partners believe that "the time has come for substantial restructuring in the sphere" of integration processes within the community, says Mr Andrey Lukanov, Bulgaria's minister of foreign economic relations. In an interview for the English-language *Sofia News* weekly, which in its recent issues has been publishing the answers by senior party, government and economic officials to a set of questions concerning the country's socioeconomic development in the conditions of restructuring, Mr Lukanov points out that "at present, extremely favourable prerequisites for increasing the efficiency of our integration are being created," as well as for "the development of new forms of contacts." Efforts should concentrate technological breakthroughs, joint restructuring of the economic levers: prices, tariffs and currency regulations." The interviewee emphasises that "all this presupposes a reduced role of the administrative factor in the integration process and its purging of all red tape. Mutual benefit, quality and competitiveness should be the sole determining factors."

The minister of foreign economic relations indicates that "the development of economic relations with the CMEA member states is not at variance with Bulgaria's relations with the West and the developing countries. On the contrary, these two trends in the country's foreign economic policy support and complement each other." It is to Bulgaria's economic interests to promote relations with the non-socialist countries, and the necessary legislation has already been passed enabling individual commodity producers "to directly go on the world market and choose their foreign partners, entering into direct contacts with them."

Further on in his answers, Mr Andrey Lukanov points out that "the conditions for Bulgarian trade and cooperation with the West are not optimal, that a number of artificial obstacles to a more substantial development of relations exist. "He expresses the hope that "the gradual improvement of the international situation will bring about positive changes in this sphere as well."

The minister believes that in the near future, the negotiations between Bulgaria and the EEC and between CMEA and the EEC could end "simultaneously, i.e. with the signing of a joint document between the two communities and of agreements on cooperation between us, the other CMEA member states and the EEC"

Mr Andrey Lukanov recalls that "Bulgaria has expressed her desire to hold negotiations on her joining GATT (the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade)." He is of the opinion that in this way the trade and political problems which crop up in this country's relations with the GATT member states, could be better regulated. A memorandum is now in preparation setting forth Bulgaria's economic policy and practice before the GATT member states.

As to the International Monetary Fund, Bulgaria has "not launched initiatives to join it", the minister says.

Husak To Pay Official Visit to SFRY

LD031157 Prague Domestic Service in Slovak 1100 GMT 3 Sep 87

[Text] At the invitation of the SFRY Presidency and the LCY Central Committee Presidium, Gustav Husak, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee and president of the Republic, will pay an official friendly visit to the SFRY in the second half of September.

Indra Receives Polish Democratic Party Head

LD031746 Prague CTK in English 1536 GMT 3 Sep 87

[Text] Prague Sept 3 (CTK) — Czechoslovak Communist Party Presidium member and Chairman of the Federal Assembly Alois Indra received here today Polish Vice-President and Chairman of the Polish Democratic Party Tadeusz Mlynczak.

They discussed and positively evaluated the development of Czechoslovak-Polish relations and cooperation in all spheres. Both sides voiced full support for the peace proposals of the Soviet Union and other Warsaw Treaty states which show a real path towards reliable international security and peaceful cooperation in Europe and the world.

Tadeusz Mlynczak is in Czechoslovakia at the invitation of the Czechoslovak Socialist Party.

Urban Talks With Uruguay's Iglesias

LD031421 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1200 GMT 3 Sep 87

[Text] Bohumil Urban, minister of foreign trade, received in Prague today Enrique Iglesias, minister of foreign affairs of the Oriental Republic of Uruguay, and other members of a delegation who are in Czechoslovakia on an official visit. The ministers discussed further possibilities of economic and trade cooperation, which has a long tradition. They expressed mutual interest in broadening and seeking new forms of trade exchanges.

ANC's Tambo Pays Visit 2 September

Husak Presents Award

LD031639 Prague CTK in English 1454 GMT 3 Sep 87

[Text] Prague Sept 3 (CTK) — Czechoslovak Communist Party General Secretary and President Gustav Husak presented the Order of Friendship to Chairman of the African National Congress of South Africa Oliver Tambo, who arrived here last night.

The Czechoslovak state distinction was awarded to the ANC leader for his significant personal share in the national liberation struggle of the South African people and on the occasion of his 70th birthday.

Gustav Husak expressed full support of the Czechoslovak Communist Party and Government for the ANC-led just struggle of South African patriots against racial oppression and the system of apartheid, and added that Czechoslovakia will continue promoting international solidarity with the national liberation struggle in the south of Africa.

Oliver Tambo appreciated Czechoslovakia's support for the South African people's struggle, and said he was convinced that this struggle will be successful with the aid of world progressive and democratic public.

Meets With Bilak

LD031646 Prague CTK in English 1506 GMT 3 Sep 87

[Text] Prague Sept 3 (CTK) — Czechoslovak Communist Party Presidium member and Central Committee Secretary Vasil Bilak and visiting African National Congress Chairman Oliver Tambo discussed some aspects of the work of their parties as well as the present international situation, especially in Europe and southern Africa, here today.

They stressed the need for the unity of all forces in the struggle against imperialism and its aggressive policy.

Oliver Tambo praised the attitudes of the Czechoslovak Communist Party towards the national liberation movement in the world and in South Africa in particular, as well as Czechoslovakia's effort in pushing through the peace initiatives of the USSR and the socialist countries aimed at liquidating nuclear weapons.

The two officials discussed also questions of further development of cooperation between the two parties.

Leaders Send National Day Greetings to Libya

AU031744 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 1 Sep 87 p 1

[CTK report in the "Receptions, Negotiations, Telegrams, Letters" column]

[Text] Prague (CTK) — CSSR President Gustav Husak sent a telegram of congratulations to Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Libyan Revolution of 1 September, on the occasion of his country's national day.

On the same occasion CSSR Premier Lubomir Strougal congratulated Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud, member of the Revolutionary Command Council of the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

Bohuslav Chnoupek, CSSR minister of foreign affairs, too, congratulated on this occasion Jadallah 'Aziz at-Talhi, secretary of the General People's Committee of the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah for foreign liaison.

[Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak on 2 September on page 2 carries a 50-word CTK report on a reception given by Mohamed Musbah Khalifa, secretary of the Libyan People's Bureau in Prague, on the occasion of

his country's national day. The report mentions that the reception was attended by "Jan Janik, deputy chairman of the CSSR Federal Assembly, and other officials," as well as by members of the Prague diplomatic corps.]

Leaders Congratulate SRV on Anniversary
AU031708 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 2 Sep 87 p 1

[Unattributed report]

[Text] Prague — Gustav Husak, CPCZ Central Committee general secretary and CSSR president, and CSSR Premier Lubomir Strougal have sent Nguyen Van Linh, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam; Vi Si Kong, chairman of the SRV State Council; and Pham Van Dong, chairman of the SRV Council of Ministers, the following congratulatory telegram on the occasion of SRV national day — the 42nd anniversary of the proclamation of the country's independence:

Dear Comrades,

On behalf of the CPCZ Central Committee, the CSSR Government and people, and our own behalf we are sending you, the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam, the government and all Vietnamese people comradely greetings and cordial congratulations on SRV national day the 42nd anniversary of the proclamation of the country's independence.

We in the CSSR highly value the efforts of the fraternal Vietnamese people for the fulfillment of the exacting tasks determined by the Sixth Congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam. We are convinced that the Vietnamese working people — under the party leadership and in close bonds with the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries — will achieve on the path of socialist construction further successes in all spheres of social life.

We sincerely value the SRV's foreign policy of peace. The SRV, together with the other fraternal Indochinese countries — the People's Republic of Kampuchea and the Lao People's Democratic Republic — is striving to assert peaceful coexistence and transform Southeast Asia into a region of peace, friendship, and cooperation.

It is pleasing that the traditional relations of friendly and comprehensive cooperation between our fraternal parties, nations, and states continue to successfully deepen and expand on the foundation of the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism in the interest of strengthening the unity and the cohesion of the socialist countries.

Dear Comrades, we wish you and all fraternal Vietnamese people many further successes in the work for the SRV's prosperity, in the common struggle for peace, progress, and understanding among nations of the whole world.

Outstanding Vietnamese Workers Cited
BK031125 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 31 Aug 87

[Text] According to a Prague-dispatched news report, on the occasion of the 42nd anniversaries of our country's August Revolution and National Day and the 70th anniversary of the Great October Revolution, a conference was held in Prague between 29 and 30 August to cite this year's outstanding work performance of the Vietnamese community in Czechoslovakia.

The conferees listened to some 30 reports and speeches made by Vietnamese and Czechoslovakian participants. Comrades (Spenkenira) and (Vedeli) highly evaluated the ever increasing friendship and allround cooperation between the two countries and the concrete contributions of the Vietnamese community in Czechoslovakia. They also emphasized the need for Czechoslovakians to show more concern for Vietnamese on training programs or on work assignments in Czechoslovakia and to realize that by working or by learning to improve their professional skills, members of the Vietnamese community are actively contributing to developing the solidarity, friendship, and cooperation between the two nations.

At the conference, outstanding individuals and collectives were presented with 12 letters of commendation and 4 gifts from the Czechoslovakia-Vietnam Friendship Association.

Strougal Receives Outgoing Romanian Envoy
LD031755 Prague Domestic Service in Slovak 1500 GMT 3 Sep 87

[Text] In Prague today Federal Premier Lubomir Strougal received Cornel Pinzaru, ambassador of the SR of Romania to Czechoslovakia, in connection with the ending of his diplomatic mission.

'Text' of 'Charter of Believers'
LD032028 Vatican City International Service in Czech 1730 GMT 3 Sep 87

[Text] The text of the Charter of Believers in Czechoslovakia found its way to the West recently. Here is the text of it:

1. We demand that the state not interfere with the selection of students and staff at theological faculties. We also demand that a second theological faculty be opened in Moravia.

2. We demand a halt to pressure against parents whose children attend tuition in religion, and against those children themselves. This tuition should be provided not only in schools but also in churches.

3. We demand that those who attend tuition in religion be no longer discriminated against in the process of selection of candidates for places at higher institutions of learning.

4. We demand that the Office of Church Secretaries be abolished. They have the authority to remove at will permits from priests who become uncomfortable to them, particularly those who work among young people.

5. We demand that a council of laymen be formed in each parish to help the priests.

6. We demand the restoration of religious orders.

7. We demand the right to found Catholic associations and youth clubs outside the church.

8. We demand that we be allowed to maintain contacts with Catholics abroad and to receive Catholic books and printed matter without censorship of any kind.

9. We demand that everybody have the right to take part in spiritual exercises.

10. We demand a genuine Catholic press and also Catholic radio and television programs.

11. We demand the rehabilitation of priests and members of religious orders who have been imprisoned for carrying out their religious duties.

12. We demand a halt to discrimination against believers who currently have no access to some professions, especially teaching.

13. We demand that new church buildings be constructed.

14. We demand that new bishops be ordained and a bishops' conference be founded.

15. We demand the allocation of permits to ordain lay deacons.

16. We demand the separation of the church from the atheist state.

The Charter of Believers of Czechoslovakia ends with a plea: Joined in prayer, we ask our Catholic brothers and sisters to help and assist our petition to the Czechoslovak representative bodies in their own countries.

Janak Visits Dunajska Streda District

LD031435 Prague Domestic Service in Slovak 1030 GMT 3 Sep 87

[Text] Ignac Janak, candidate member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and secretary of the CPSL Central Committee arrived on a working visit in the Dunajska Streda district today. He is interested in the progress of construction of the Gabcikovo-Nagymaros project on the Danube and the progress of post-harvest agricultural work.

Krivoy Rog Project Shortcomings Reported

AU031123 [Editorial Report] Prague *Prace* in Czech on 1 September on page 5 carries a 4,000-word article by its staff journalist Alice Penkavova headlined "With Staff Journalists of Trade Union Dailies at an Integration Project in the Soviet Union; Future Begins in Dolinskaya," describing her visit to the construction site of the oxidized ores dressing plant in Dolinskaya near the Ukrainian city of Krivoy Rog, which she undertook — no date given — together with her colleagues from the Soviet *Trud*, Romanian *Munca De Partid*, and the GDR's *Tribuene* trade union papers.

Penkavova says in part that before going to Dolinskaya her party made a stopover at the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions in Moscow, where Fedor Kiyashko, head of the Department for Production-Economic Cooperation, told them not to look at their journey as a "basis for advertising big successes." They will have, however, the opportunity to talk "openly and honestly" about what has been preventing the project's faster progress, coordination of tasks, and the people's satisfaction "with their social rear [zazemi]," Kiyashko told them.

"An integration project such as this combine does not need big words, but proposals for solutions. Ask economic personnel to explain to you why and what they forgot to do, and acquaint the trade union organizations at the project with the people's suggestions as to how to improve care for the working people. Insist on concrete answers and deadlines, do not let yourselves be discouraged by evasive arguments, because distorted information causes more harm than good. The Krivoy Rog combine is one of the most complex integration projects, because a completely new technology is being applied here; technology that has not yet been tested anywhere in the world. Already in the design stage there were many controversies with the proponents of the old technology. The conclusion of work contracts, where it was to be stipulated, who will concretely do what, and what the mutual duties will be, took a long time to resolve on the international level. Of course, the path of mutual reservations — of which sometimes there is no dearth — is sterile. What is important is to build the combine quickly and well within the set deadlines, and that the participating countries obtain enriched ore in the quantity which corresponds to their share in the project," Kiyashko said, according to Penkavova.

Penkavova then goes on to say that she paid a visit to the site before — in December 1977 — and even then she came across complaints about the coordination of work at the project and, in particular, the deliveries of building materials which were not satisfactory. According to technical data, the underground water under the hall for magnetic separation, which the Czechoslovak construction crew was building, contained sulphate which errodes concrete, and thus the laying of the foundation had to be solved differently than it would have in the CSSR. Concrete pylons, 14 meters long, had to be driven into the ground — some 34,000 of them. The first experience with the driving of pylons was "perplexing." The pylons were simply breaking and cracking. There was even a suggestion to import the pylons from the

CSSR, a matter which "hardly fulfills the demand for effective production," Penkavova states.

In another part of her article she quotes Oleg Davydov, deputy director of the USSR State Committee For Foreign Economic Relations, as having said that "today only ours and the Czechoslovak builders work at a real pace at the project; the GDR has begun preparatory work, and Romania has sent the first workers. The cause of this is the fact that for a long time mutual bilateral agreements were not concluded with these two countries and therefore their banks could not finance the project. Another problem I see is that in every country different rules for designing apply, and also some norms differ. However, one also has to say that some firms and suppliers — in an effort to make the biggest possible profit — bill their state for high prices."

In the closing part of her article, Penkavova mentions that "party, trade union, and economic representatives of the participating countries" had arrived at the Soviet section of the project to answer the rank-and-file builders' questions.

The Soviet builders wanted to know when apartments will be ready, since they have to take a train daily from Krivoy Rog, which is 100 km away, and there is "no time at all for the family." The Czechoslovak "representatives" asked about pylons and cement, the quality of which is not always as it should be, and about the quality of diesel oil which causes "complications" in icy-cold winter months. And " 'why are there not potatoes? We are already eating dumplings by the second month,' the builders are up in arms," Penkavova reports, adding there were also complaints about telephone connections, automobiles having to wait for a long time at railroad crossings, drinking water supplies, and other things. "The frank chat, which was stormy at times, clarified many things, which were often discussed — to the detriment of the cause — behind the scenes only. It shows that unnecessarily. Because when one keeps silent about problems, it does not mean that they do not exist," Penkavova concludes her article.

BRIEFS

Potac Meets Soviet Official

Svatopluk Potac, federal vice premier and chairman of the State Planning Commission, received in Prague today at the end of the working group discussions of the central planning authorities of Czechoslovakia and the Soviet Union, the head of the Soviet delegation, Vsevolod Prusov. They examined the coordination of the national economic plans of both countries for the period after 1990 and other topical issues of economic cooperation. [Text] *[Bratislava Domestic Service in Slovak 1930 GMT 28 Aug 87 LD]*

Jakes Visits Kladno District

Milos Jakes, member of the Presidium and secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, today visited the Kladno district, where he familiarized himself with the harvest progress. At the district party committee, (Vaclav Spejra), the chief secretary, briefed him on how the working people of the district are implementing the resolutions of the 17th party congress. In the discussion Milos Jakes inquired about how the debate on the draft bill on the state enterprise is proceeding and talked with officials of the district party committee about problems in speeding up social and economic development. Then he left for the unified agricultural cooperative at Vrany where he familiarized himself with the grain harvest progress and the quality of grain being harvested by cooperative farmers. He talked with combine harvester crews from the machine and tractor station at Touzim, who are assisting farmers of the Kladno district in the harvest, about their tasks and earnings. He talked to students — volunteer workers who have come to pick hops — about their working conditions and accomodations. At the close of his visit, Milos Jakes commended the effort the farmers put into the harvest and especially their effort to conduct themselves as economically as possible, carry out the harvest as rapidly and cheaply as possible, and sell the best quality grain to the procurement authorities. [Text] *[Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1930 GMT 28 Aug 87 LD]*

Kempny Meets Ostrava Workers

Josef Kempny, member of the Presidium of the CPCZ Central Committee and chairman of the Czech National Council, had a discussion during today's working visit to Ostrava with the representatives of the city about its construction and further development. They also discussed the fulfillment of the tasks of the 17th party congress and the views of the Ostrava working people on the draft bill on the state enterprise. In the Klement Gottwald new smelting plant in Ostrava Kuncice, Josef Kempny showed interest in the fulfillment of the economic plan, and in his discussion with the working people he showed an interest in their working and living conditions. He also viewed the new multipurpose hall in Vitkovice, the indoor swimming poll in Poruba, the subways at the Square of the Republic, the pioneers' bridge, and the new buildings of the (Na Fisejdach) city hospital. [Text] *[Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1400 GMT 28 Aug 87 LD]*

Pitra Visits Slovakia

Frantisek Pitra, candidate to the Presidium and secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, paid a working visit yesterday to the central Slovak region, where he acquainted himself with the fulfillment of the tasks in agriculture set out by the 17th party congress. In the Prievidza district he showed interest in developing party work in the agricultural and industrial enterprises of the district, in the progress in the public discussion of the draft bill on state enterprise, and in the preparations for restructuring the economic mechanism. Frantisek Pitra acquainted himself in Zilina with the development of that industrial and agricultural center for the area adjacent to the central Vah. At

the 20th Anniversary of the Slovak National Uprising collective farm in Kotesova he showed interest in the achievements in plant production and viewed frozen food cooperation production lines, through which the cooperation farm contributes toward broadening the range of food products in Slovakia. In the Slovak National Uprising collective farm in Rosina, Comrade Frantisek Pitra praised the achievements of the collective farm in this year's harvest and also its initiative in using modern computer equipment in large-scale agricultural production within the framework of comprehensive electronization of the district. [Text] *[Prague Domestic Service in Slovak 0700 GMT 28 Aug 87 LD]*

PRC Signs Construction Cooperation Protocol
LD022008 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1546 GMT 2 Sep 87

[Text] Berlin 2 Sep (ADN) — Following 2 days of consultations Wolfgang Junker, GDR minister for construction industry, and Ye Rutang, PRC minister for urban and rural construction and environmental protection, today signed a protocol on cooperation in the construction industry for 1987-1990. The document contains an agreement to begin scientific, technical and economic cooperation on the basis of existing government accords in the areas of construction; town, village, and regional planning; and selected aspects of engineering as well as to promote cooperation in the development and supply of construction equipment and products of the building materials industry. Both sides also supported the intensification of contacts between the relevant combines and foreign trade organizations of the construction industry.

This week, Minister Ye Rutang will acquaint himself with the experiences and achievements of the construction industry in Berlin and Potsdam, and in the Frankfurt and Neubrandenberg Bezirks.

Leaders' Message to SRV on Anniversary
AU031445 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 2 Sep 87 pp 1-2

[Text] East Berlin (ND) — Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council; Willi Stoph, chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers; and Horst Sindermann, president of the GDR People's Chamber, have sent congratulations to the representatives of Vietnam on the 42nd anniversary of the founding of the SRV. The telegram to Nguyen Van Linh, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV]; Vo Chi Cong, chairman of the SRV State Council; Le Quang Dao, chairman of the SRV National Assembly; and Pham Hung, chairman of the SRV Council of Ministers, reads as follows:

Dear Comrades:

On the 42nd anniversary of the founding of the SRV we convey to you, the CPV Central Committee, the State Council, the National Assembly, the government, and the fraternal Vietnamese people most cordial congratulations and fraternal greetings from the SED Central Committee, the State Council, the People's Chamber, the Council of Ministers, and the GDR people.

Since their state gained its independence on 2 September 1945, the Vietnamese people, under the leadership of the CPV, have accomplished outstanding achievements in a sacrificial and protracted struggle to overcome the consequences of colonialism, to build socialism, and to defend their revolutionary achievements.

The SRV is making a significant contribution to the struggle for peace, detente, and disarmament, against the imperialist policy of confrontation and arms build-up. Its constructive policy of dialogue to establish a zone of peace, stability, and cooperation in Southeast Asia is a factor of increasing importance.

We are firmly convinced that the close relations of fraternal friendship, mutual trust, and solidaristic affinity between our parties, states, and peoples will continue to steadily develop and deepen on the basis of Marxism-Leninism, proletarian internationalism, and the treaty on friendship and cooperation.

We wish the fraternal Vietnamese people new successes in implementing the decisions of the Sixth CPV Congress, which are aimed at further strengthening the country's material-technical base and the important sociopolitical tasks. To you, dear Comrades, we convey best wishes for good health, well-being, and creative energy.

Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council; Willi Stoph, chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers; Horst Sindermann, president of the GDR People's Chamber

Strougal Views Cooperation Before Leaving
AU030814 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 1 Sep 87 p 7

["vil"-signed report on interview with CSSR Premier Lubomir Strougal by Czechoslovak journalists prior to his departure from Budapest on 31 August]

[Text] At the end of his visit to the Hungarian People's Republic, CSSR Premier Lubomir Strougal answered questions posed by a group of Czechoslovak journalists. About his talks with Karoly Grosz, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Hungarian People's Republic, L. Strougal said, among other things:

We informed one another about the situation in our countries, exchanged fundamental views on international issues, and discussed preparations for a CEMA session. The fundamental theme was: How to deepen economic, scientific-technical, and trade cooperation. In this connection one has to say that the trend of dynamic development is lagging. Therefore we discussed cooperation of specific branches in which we should conclude specialization agreements, establish direct relations, and possibly establish joint ventures. This concerns some sectors of engineering, chemical and consumer industries and, in particular, electrical engineering and electronics, in which the Hungarian partners are better prepared for exchange in terms of investment, but now we too are growing strong in this sector. It is my opinion that a realistic opportunity exists for considerably expanding our cooperation in electrical engineering and electronics.

Asked in which specific sectors the current talks moved cooperation forward, the CSSR Premier said:

Higher forms of cooperation are most important now. The Joint Committee for Economic and Scientific-Technical Cooperation held a meeting at the beginning of July, which determined some new topics. On the agenda, above all, is cooperation, possibly even a higher form of cooperation, in the sphere of the automobile industry. It concerns the existing as well as the new model of the Skoda passenger car and, also the preparation of a modernized version in 1990. We and the Hungarians are interested in such cooperation. We know that there exist several proposals for cooperation with the Hungarian People's Republic in this sphere, but I think that we will attempt to reach an agreement.

Electronics is another important sphere, in which Hungarian exports to the CSSR predominate. Our opinion is that it is necessary to conclude the planned agreement on closer cooperation in electronics not only up to the year 1990, but until the year 2000. Such proposals are ready, and we have to agree to the economic conditions.

The third sphere is the chemical industry, in which there exist some concrete proposals for the conclusion of specialization accords or the establishment of direct relations, and even joint ventures. I think that it is also in the interest of both countries to conclude this accord. This endeavor encounters some economic problems, such as prices and the setting of prices. In this connection there really are many unclarified questions, which experts must study. When the economic independence of enterprises will become effective, the setting of prices will be much more important. These issues have to be rationally assessed and analyzed by both sides to see what will contribute to broader economic cooperation between our two countries.

Communique on Strougal's Visit to Hungary
AU030930 Budapest NEPSZABADSAG in Hungarian 1 Sep 87 p 3

["Communique on Visit by Lubomir Strougal" — MTI headline]

[Text] Budapest, August 31 (MTI) — On invitation of Karoly Grosz, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Hungarian People's Republic, Lubomir Strougal, chairman of the Government of the CSSR paid a friendly working visit to Hungary on 31 August, 1987.

The Czechoslovak prime minister met MSZMP General Secretary Janos Kadar.

At negotiations the two government heads briefed each other on the domestic situations of their countries, examined trends in Hungarian-Czechoslovak relations since the last prime ministerial meeting, and exchanged views on the most important issues of the international situation.

Karoly Grosz reviewed the position of the MSZMP Central Committee July session on the program of economic and social advance and measures serving to further promote the reform process.

Lubomir Strougal gave a briefing on implementation of the resolutions of the 17th CPCZ Congress, on the main trends in perfection of the economic mechanism, and on the intensification of the democratization of social life.

The two government heads stressed the importance of efforts serving the most efficient utilization of the creative forces and possibilities within socialist society. They are convinced that the processes of socio-economic renewal will create the possibility for the further intensification of cooperation among the socialist countries.

They concluded with satisfaction that the cooperation between the Hungarian People's Republic and the CSSR is developing successfully on the basis of the principles of socialist internationalism and traditional friendship. They stressed the importance of the meetings and talks between Janos Kadar and Gustav Husak, in this favourable process, serving the interests of the peoples of the two countries.

They pointed out that the deepening of economic cooperation requires increasing efforts to introduce up-to-date forms of production and technological-scientific

cooperation, as well as a continued improvement in the commodity turnover pattern, together with a balanced supply. Consistent implementation of the Program of Economic and Technological-Scientific Cooperation Through the Year 2000 is most importance in developing economic relations.

The government heads agreed that special attention had to be devoted to establishing joint ventures, and to promoting direct relations between production and scientific organizations.

They considered it necessary that there be an acceleration in negotiations currently underway on prolonging existing production cooperation agreements, and that concrete measures be taken to intensify specialization and cooperation, principally in car manufacturing, electro-technology, the chemical industry, and other sophisticated sectors, in the manufacture of nuclear power station installations, in microelectronics, in computer technology, in robotics, and in biotechnology. They favourably evaluated that cooperation between the farms of the two countries, which includes the mutual exchange of production systems, is operating successfully. They appreciated the activity of the Hungarian-Czechoslovak Committee for Economic and Technological-Scientific Cooperation.

They agreed that construction of the Gabcikovo-Nagymaros barrage system is taking place in keeping with the joint construction phase plan and experts of the two countries are continuously ensuring optimum satisfaction of environmental protection demands. They concluded that the construction would be accelerated.

They took a position on further improving conditions for the advance of tourism.

The government heads stressed the importance of further deepening cooperation in science, culture, education, health and sports.

They stressed that consistent implementation of the Leninist policy towards national minorities was contributing to the fruitful relations of the two socialist countries, further reinforcing the friendship among their two peoples. They concluded that both sides are devoting major attention to impelmenting the equal rights of the national minorities, and to their cultural and social development.

They agreed that caring for common progressive tradition had to be continued in harmony with the positive results attained.

Karloly Grosz and Lubomir Strougal, examining issues of cooperation within the CMEA, took a position in favour of updating the mechanism of socialist economic integration and the activity of the organization. They pointed out the importance of executing the tasks stemming from the Comprehensive Programme of the CMEA Countries for Scientific and Technological Progress to the Year 2000.

Touching on the topical issues of the international situation the prime minister assured the Soviet Union and the other Warsaw Pact member states of their full support in their initiatives for consolidating European and world peace, for halting the arms race, and preventing it from spreading to outer space, for disarmament, and for preventing the threat of war. They pointed out the need to set up a comprehensive system of international peace and security.

They underlined the outstanding importance of implementing the proposals made at the Warsaw Pact Political Consultative Committee meetings in Budapest and Berlin in solving the key issues of international security, from the point of view of creating the more favourable atmosphere needed for disarmament and to build confidence. One of the most important measures to prevent the threat of a nuclear catastrophe can be the soonest possible agreement between the Soviet Union and the United States on eliminating medium-range and tactical-operative missiles, for which the constructive initiatives of the Soviet Union have created an opportunity.

They concluded that implementation of the proposals made by Czechoslovakia and the GDR on a nuclear-free corridor and on establishment of a chemical weapon-free zone on the border between the Warsaw Treaty and NATO, and in central Europe could contirbute to consolidation of European security.

They expressed the willingness of their countries to continue to contribute to advancing the Helsinki process, to a conclusion of the Vienna meeting of the countries participating in the CSCE in Europe with a closing document that is successful, balanced and of merit.

The meeting between Karoly Grosz and Lubomir Strougal took place in a cordial, open, comradely atmosphere, with complete identity of views. The prime ministers expressed their conviction that their talks will contribute to intensifying Hungarian-Czechoslovak cooperation, to further strengthening the friendship of the two fraternal socialist countries.

Lubomir Strougal invited Karoly Grosz to visit Czechoslovakia, who accepted the invitation with thanks.

Further Reportage on Van Den Broek's Visit

Meets With Nemeth, Grosz

LD031846 Budapest MTI in English 1500 GMT 3 Sep 87

[Text] Budapest, September 3 (MTI) — As reported, Karoly Nemeth, president of the Presidential Council, met Dutch foreign Minister Hans van den Broek, currently on an official visit to Hungary, Thursday in the parliament building. At talks the sides stressed that all countries have their own roles and responsibility in improving the international situation and in building

confidence. Both sides termed Hungarian-Dutch relations as exemplary, and appreciated their favourable effect on East-West cooperation. They stressed that respect for each other's situation and standpoint, which characterized the current talks throughout, and plays a fundamental role in the undisturbed nature of relations between the two countries.

Karoly Grosz, chairman of the Hungarian Council of Ministers, also met the Dutch foreign minister in the parliament building. At the discussions the sides unanimously evaluated the development of political, economic, technical, scientific and cultural relations between Hungary and the Netherlands as favourable, and voiced the mutual interest of the two countries in extending the areas of cooperation. They were of the opinion that promising developments experienced in the international situation, particularly the progress of the Helsinki process, can create favourable conditions. Both sides voiced their hope that direct relations between Hungarian and Dutch companies will expand in the future.

Karoly Grosz stressed that international economic division of labour has particular importance for Hungary. The government's programme for advance firmly builds on the advantages inherent in the extension of modern forms of international economic and trade cooperation. Present at the meeting between the Hungarian prime minister and the Dutch foreign minister was Hungarian Foreign Minister Peter Varkonyi.

Hans van den Broek also met Istvan Sarlos, president of the National Assembly. At the meeting they stressed the importance of the role of parliaments in strengthening international confidence. In this context they agreed that Hungarian-Dutch parliamentary relations well serve cooperation between the two countries, and understanding between the two peoples.

During the day Minister of Foreign Trade Peter Veress also held talks with the Dutch foreign minister.

Holds Press Conference

LD031847 Budapest MTI in English 1620 GMT 3 Sep 87

[Text] Budapest, September 3 (MTI) — Dutch Foreign Minister Hans van den Broek summed up the experiences gained during his visit to Hungary at an international press conference on Thursday. He assessed the talks he held with Janos Kadar, Karoly Nemeth, Karoly Grosz, and Istvan Sarlos on bilateral relations as fruitful. He emphasized that the exchange of views opened up new vistas for strengthening contacts in the political, economic and cultural fields alike. Economic cooperation is also encouraged by the investment protection agreement signed by the Dutch foreign minister and Peter Medgyessy, minister of finance, on Wednesday.

Hans van den Broek said that he had been informed in detail about the economic situation of Hungary and the efforts made by the country to increase exports. The Netherlands holds it a justified demand, he said, that the Western markets be more open to the competitive Hungarian goods. At the same time, referring to the talks between Hungary and the European Economic Community, Hans van den Broek said that a concrete agreement is subject to the approval of all member states of the Common Market.

Discussing international affairs, the Dutch foreign minister took a stand for maintaining and intensifying East-West dialogue. In this context he emphasized the importance of the CSCE process, and the successful conclusion of the Vienna follow-up conference and the Soviet-American arms limitation talks in Geneva. At the same time Hans van den Broek said that if no agreement is reached in Geneva on the abolition of intermediate-range nuclear arms in Europe, the Netherlands would start, under a previous decision, the deployment of cruise missiles in the second half of 1988.

Departs, Seen off by Varkonyi

LD031848 Budapest MTI in English 1625 GMT 3 Sep 87

[Text] Budapest, September 3 (MTI) — Concluding his official visit to Hungary, Hans van den Broek, minister of foreign affairs of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, left Hungary on Thursday.

At Budapest's Ferihegy Airport the Dutch foreign minister and his wife were seen off by Hungarian Foreign Minister Peter Varkonyi.

Berecz Speaks at Propaganda Meeting

LD031936 Budapest MTI in English 1514 GMT 3 Sep 87

[Text] Budapest, September 3 (MTI) — A national agitation and propaganda conference opened Thursday in Tengelic, in Tolna County. The two-day event is attended by the leaders of county party committees and national organs and organizations concerned with ideological work, and leaders of the press. Janos Berecz, member of the HSWP Political Committee and secretary of the Central Committee delivered a paper entitled "The State of Ideological Life, and the Tasks of Political Consciousness Shaping Work." Erno Lakatos, department head of the HSWP Central Committee, evaluated the last party education year, and presented the most important tasks of the current educational year.

Friday, participants of the conference are to hear a paper by Miklos Nemeth, secretary of the HSWP Central Committee, on the programme of economic, social advance, and the related propaganda tasks.

Aczel Attends Birthday Dinner Celebration

LD031426 Budapest MTI in English 1441 GMT 31 Aug 87

[Text] Budapest, August 31 (MTI) — The Political Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party gave adinner in Budapest Monday in honour of

Gyorgy Aczel, member of the Political Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party, director general of the Institute of Social Sciences of the Central Committee of the HSWP, to celebrate his 70th birthday. Present were the members of the Political Committee and the Secretariat as well as Andras Gyenes, chairman of the Central Control Commission. Janos Kadar, general secretary of the HSWP greeted Gyorgy Aczel in the name of the Central Committee.

The Supreme Council of the Soviet Union awarded Gyorgy Aczel with the Order of Merit of Peoples' Friendship on the occasion of his seventieth birthday, for his outstanding activity in strengthening and advancing Soviet-Hungarian friendship and cooperation.

Nemeth Presents Award to Kossuth Director
LD030327 Budapest MTI in English 1445 GMT 1 Sep 87

[Text] Budapest, September 1 (MTI) — The Hungarian Presidential Council has awarded the order of banner adorned with rubies of the Hungarian People's Republic to Gyorgy Nonn, director of the Budapest Kossuth publishers, in appreciation of his many decades-long politically committed publishing and his public activity, on the occasion of his retirement.

The decoration was presented by Karoly Nemeth, president of the Presidential Council. Attending was Erno Lakatos, department head of the HSWP Central Committee.

On the occasion of his decoration, Gyorgy Nonn was greeted by Janos Berecz, member of the HSWP Political Committee and secretary of the Central Committee, who installed Tibor Illes, the successor to Gyorgy Nonn as the director of the Kossuth publishing house.

Danes on Trial Admit Spying For NATO

LD041050 Stockholm International Service in Swedish 1000 GMT 4 Sep 87

[Text] The two Danes arrested in Poland in April when they were photographing a military airfield, have, according to the Polish Information Ministry, admitted that they had been sent by the Danish intelligence service to spy for NATO.

Staff at the Danish Embassy in Warsaw have not been allowed to meet the detained Danes, and no outsiders are allowed to be present during the trial, which is now underway.

U.S. Senator's Visit, Talks Reported

AU031005 Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish 31 Aug 87 p 2

[Text] PAP — Frank Lautenberg, U.S. senator and member of the U.S. Congress CSCE Commission, visited Poland from 26 through 29 August 1987.

On Friday Senator Lautenberg was received by Jozef Czyrek, chairman of the Sejm Foreign Affairs Commission.

Senator Lautenberg also held talks with Jan Kinast, under secretary of state in the PPR Ministry of Foreign Affairrs, and a group of Foreign Ministry experts. The talks focused on security and cooperation in Europe and issues pertaining to human rights.

The talks were attended by Richard Shifter, assistant secretary of state, and Teodor Edgar Mecarrick, Roman Catholic Archbishop of Newark. John R. Davis, U.S. charge d'affaires in Warsaw, was also present.

Pakistani Parliamentarians Received

LD031339 Warsaw PAP in English 1135 GMT 3 Sep 87

[Text] Warsaw, Sept. 3 — A delegation of the Pakistani Parliament held talks today with Sejm (parliament) speaker Roman Malinowski.

Also today, head of the delegation, vice-chairman of the Senate Malik Muhammad Ali Khan [title as received] was received by Premier Zbigniew Messner.

Nuclear Waste Storage Plans Protested

LD031244 Hamburg DPA in German 1202 GMT 3 Sep 87

[Text] Warsaw (DPA) — Six members of the opposition Polish Pacifist organization "Freedom and Peace (WIP)" have protested in Miedzyrzecz against the plans of the Polish nuclear authorities to store nuclear waste in an old bunker system there. The civil rights campaigner, Jacek Kuron, reported in Warsaw today that the young people climbed on to the roof of a restaurant and unfolded banners reading "Miedzyrzecz — a nuclear waste dump" and "radiation disease hits everyone."

Many inhabitants of the small town gathered round the building. After about 3 hours the demonstrators climbed down and entered a church. The police had earlier called on them several times to clear the roof. Radioactive waste from the first Polish nuclear power station, currently being built in Zarnowicc near Gdansk, may be stored in the bunker system.

Urban 25 August News Conference

AU030743 Warsaw RZECZPOSPOLITA in Polish 31 Aug 87 pp 5, 6

["Transcript" of the 25 August press conference held by Jerzy Urban for foreign and Polish journalists in Warsaw]

[Text] A weekly press conference for foreign and Polish journalists was held in the Interpress Press Center in Warsaw on 25 August. Minister Jerzy Urban answered questions. Below is the transcript of the conference.

Tadeusz Kucharski, *Time* magazine: Minister, what importance does the Polish Government attach to the coming visit of U.S. Vice President George Bush?

Urban: We are looking forward to the official visit to Poland by U.S. Vice President George Bush. The visit is planned for the last ten days in September. This will be the first U.S. official visit at such a high level for a long time.

We expect that Vice President Bush's visit will express an intention to normalize and develop Polish-U.S. relations, following a period of decline, which was the most profound decline in Polish-U.S. relations. From this spot I have often talked about the reasons for this state of affairs and have taken a stand on the U.S. policy toward Poland at that time.

Polish-U.S. dialogue continues to develop gradually, as attested to by recent visits by Jozef Czyrek and Marshal of the Sejm Roman Malinowski, who led Sejm delegations to the United States, by the Warsaw visit of Assistant Secretary of State Whitehead, and by such actions as the formal abolition of restrictions against Poland. These and other events in Polish-U.S. relations continue to create a favorable background for Vice President Bush's visit. We think that his visit will encourage the complete normalization of relations between our countries and will restore them to their traditionally good state.

The process of normalization will be tested by the U.S. authorities' departure from the policy of discriminating against Poland economically and of interfering in its domestic affairs in any way. What we want is complete mutual understanding and respect, including respect for the differences in our systems, in the name of the traditional friendship among nations, and in the interest of consolidating our traditional friendship. Refurbished in this way, Polish-U.S. relations will help promote peaceful coexistence and cooperation in this complicated world. Vice President Bush's visit can make a crucial contribution toward the development of East-West relations.

Preparations for this visit are continuing on both sides. Appropriate U.S. and Polish institutions continue to keep in touch in this matter, and preparatory talks continue to take place in a good atmosphere. I can assure you that the Polish state authorities will receive the U.S. Vice President in line with the high position of our guest in the U.S. hierarchy and in line with the outstanding role that Mr George Bush plays in U.S. public life.

As yet, I am unable to speak about the program and any details of the visit, as this would be premature and would anticipate decisions. However, it is most probable that the Vice President will not restrict his official visit to Warsaw only.

Boguslaw Turek, *UPI*: Minister, Solidarity has contributed $1 million, which it received from the U.S. Congress, to help Polish health services. Any comment?

Urban: This information greatly amused me. I have said that the illegal group that receives open support from the budget of a foreign state commits political hara-kiri, because you cannot present yourself as a team of Polish patriots and independent and free individuals when you receive money from the government of a foreign country. The advisors of the esteemed doctor honoris causa [Walesa] from Gdansk should have explained these obvious rules of political life to him. As I see it, they have neglected their task, and the government spokesman had to do it for them. I never thought that I would ever become an advisor to the chiefs of the former Solidarity, the last thing I would ever wish for. However, since I had to play such a role and to sober up the U.S. benefactors, I am pleased that at least I have proved to have been an efficient advisor in that my advice was heeded, albeit with reluctance and too much delay. Naturally, the crux of the matter has not changed in any way. The group of combatants in question has been on U.S. payrolls for a long time. But receiving foreign maintenance is one thing, and making a public issue of it is another.

Let us now recall the facts. On 5 May 1987 the U.S. Congress adopted a resolution providing $1 million from the U.S. state budget for a political group operating illegally in Poland under the name of Solidarity. The group that was given this gift kept silent and published no statement to the effect that it did not want to be officially in the pay of a foreign power. This happened on 5 May. After a month and 10 days, that is on 15 June 1987, the decision to grant $1 million was made. [paragraph continues]

Speaking on this occasion, Senator Symms said that that was an important day in U.S. history, because on that day the U.S. Government took action to support freedom and democracy in Poland. I am quoting these words to demonstrate the flowery rhetoric of hypocrisy. As sponsor of this assistance in the Senate, Senator Symms also announced that Solidarity — in fact a group of Solidarity's former chiefs — "has appealed to the U.S. Government for help for the past 5 years." This means that the grant of that money was a result of that group's efforts for many years.

The senator also spoke of spending that money first of all to meet organizational needs and discussed methods by which the U.S. side would control the spending of its dollars. The purpose of granting this money, the senator said, was to strengthen Solidarity structures and the structures assisting Solidarity. This, let me stress, involves bodies that are illegal in the light of law. Answering a journalist's question on 21 July, I assessed the acquisition of monies from overseas as the acquisition of official status as a foreign state's agency by leaders of illegal activities. On 18 August — more than 3 months after the U.S. Congress adopted the resolution on that $1 million — answering journalists' questions, I again expressed surprise that our old acquaintances committed political hara-kiri by publicly accepting pay from a foreign state. The fact that persons who regard themselves as independent patriots receive American appanages [apanaze] created feelings of disgust among large segments of our people. Whatever convictions a Pole may hold, he dislikes those groups of people who act in the style of Targowica. [Polish magnates who in Targowica in 1792 opposed the 3 May Constitution on behalf of Russia]

These moods, and the public embarrassment of the activists who at one time were trusted by extensive sections of our people, did produce results, albeit after a 3-month delay. On 21 August, which was 3 days after my statement, Dr Janusz Onyszkiewicz handed over to Western journalists a letter from his chief, who offered his profuse thanks to the U.S. Congress and said that the embarrassing $1 million would be turned over for social purposes and would not be used for the receivers' private purposes. The letter was dated 11 August, but journalists received it only on 21 August. It was surely antedated, in order not to create the impression that offering those dollars for more noble purposes was decided under the pressure of the government spokesman's second statement. The fact that the letter was written after my press conference is also borne out by the fact that on 19 August — a day after I spoke in this hall about political hara-kiri, and a week after the letter was allegedly signed — AP reported that the attempt to obtain a comment from Janusz Onyszkiewicz and his Gdansk chief on what the government spokesman had said was a failure. Apparently, at that time the two still did not know what to do and what to say.

However, Jerzy Milewski, the plenipotentiary representative in the West of the group in question, had spoken on U.S. radio before this. He expressed thanks for the $1 million to meet the needs of his Gdansk and Warsaw principals but, of course, did not mention at all any social purposes for which these dollars might be used. Docent Bronislaw Geremek gave an interview, in which he opined that the second statement made by the Polish Government spokesman about the political hara-kiri of those who accept financial support from a foreign state had been made in bad faith. Radio Free Europe thus quoted Geremek: "Urban," Docent Geremek said to a *Reuter* correspondent, "must have certainly known about Lech Walesa's letter, but wanted to pour some

poison into the journalists' ears before publishing the letter." However, Docent Geremek did not explain why I should have known about a letter that had not been published, which means that it certainly did not exist at that time.

Around 2000 on 20 August of this year the government radio station VOA expressed its indignation about the fact that the spokesman of the Polish Government compared that $1 million for the activists of former Solidarity to the U.S. assistance to the contras in Nicaragua. Well, such a comparison is fully applicable because the aims are similar: The U.S. Government is fighting the legal authorities of the two countries by giving money to their adversaries. However, this is not my comparison. I quoted Michael Hammond, an activist in the Republican Party, who said to a U.S. newspaper that he had obtained that $1 million for Solidarity and that "we regard assistance to Solidarity in the same way as we regard assistance to the contras in Nicaragua."

In the end, Mr Onyszkiewicz's Gdansk chief and his colleagues became so nervous at the statement made by the government spokesman that they began to tell German journalists that apparently I envied them the $1 million, and that I also could contribute something from my private funds. They also reproached me for saying that the government will be able to feed itself. As you can see, you cannot expect gratitude for the fact that, by my public criticism, I helped to rescue that small group of people, who had been given $1 million, from yet another lifelong compromise in the shape of the open status of being paid agents.

The fact is that the shabby business of $1 million was and is a political and moral compromise by a group of people who so incompetently aspire to the role of leaders of the opposition in Poland. But this is not only what I think. On 21 August the BBC quoted Christopher Bobinski, the correspondent of *The Financial Times*, who wrote that the U.S. subsidy had embarrassed Solidarity leaders and that the U.S. trade unions had been surprised by the strong support given to the Congress resolution by right-wing Congressmen. In addition, the BBC said in its own commentary: "Aware of the authorities' efforts to present Solidarity as a compromised movement supported by the United States, it is hard to avoid the impression that the decision to grant that $1 million was a good opportunity for Minister Urban and his colleagues to assert that they were right."

These groups of the Polish contras to whom the U.S. authorities solemnly agreed to grant those dollars have been and continue to be subsidized by various Western sources, mostly U.S. sources, which conduct anti-Polish political activities. That $1 million of government money has actually changed nothing. However, the storm blowing around this business unmasked the allegedly patriotic independence of that group and once again demonstrated that it lacks political prudence. The fact that it has withdrawn from this business actually amounts to pleading guilty and to belated attempts to save face against public compromise.

Yousef Mah'd, *WAFA*: Minister, the radio program "Panorama of the Day" continues to harp on the shortage of basic medicines. What will the government do to ensure that people can buy the necessary medicines without difficulty?

Urban: This is really one of our most difficult problems. Despite enormous increases in the supply and imports of medicines, the demand for them continues to increase much faster, and shortages of various assortments of many important medicines are still considerable. The government continues to make decisions as the situation demands and, despite foreign currency difficulties, to constantly increase, every few months, the convertible currency quotas to import various components from which we can produce medicines in Poland, medicines ready for use, and equipment for the production of medicines. The government has also drawn up and adopted yet another program to improve this situation. In line with this program, the demand for medicines will be met in full in 1990. However, this program provides not only for increased production of medicines, for specialization, international contracts, exchanges, import, and the development of production capacities, but also for a rational consumption of medicines. In Poland the cost of medicines has not been raised for a long time. Basically, our medicines do not become more expensive, and some of them cost next to nothing. Large segments of our population pay nothing for them. All these are important social achievements, but they are tainted by the fact that many people get medical certificates to obtain drugstore medicines and amass enormous stocks of them because of their low cost. And they do this when some medicines are in short supply. The fact that the supply of medicines continues to always increase helps curb the activities by which some households amass large amounts of medicines. It is these activities that help intensify our difficulties.

Kay Withers, *Baltimore Sun*: Minister, last Sunday a group of mostly American Jews visited Kielce where they offered thanks to Poles for their many acts of heroism in saving Jewish lives during the last war. However, at least in part, the significance of this visit is that it was the first official Jewish visit since the 1946 pogrom in Kielce. During public functions, which lasted over 4 hours, none of the speakers representing the state authorities said a word about that pogrom, and the word "pogrom" was not mentioned even once. Nor was the 1946 pogrom mentioned in the official press reports on that visit, although one of its purposes was to unveil a monument to the memory of the pogrom victims. What the press reported was that there had been 42 victims of incidents in 1946. I would like to ask you, an architect of a freer information policy in Poland in the past few years, to tell us about the official reservations with regard to calling the Kielce pogrom a pogrom, and how Poland can come to terms with its Jewish heritage as it is called by many intellectuals, if such a historic tragedy cannot even be mentioned during such functions?

Urban: As I know from the press, functions were held in Kielce on the tragic anniversary of the liquidation of the Kielce Ghetto by the Hitlerites. You say that none of the speakers mentioned the 1946 pogrom that was carried out by a mob that, unfortunately, was composed of Poles. From the foreign press I know that your statement is not accurate. That press reported that in his speech Professor Kazimierz Kakol mentioned the drama in question, which is truly a black spot on our postwar history. It is a black and not a blank spot as you suggest. The Kielce pogrom was followed by a trial of those responsible for it. Severe sentences were pronounced, including death sentences. The trial was public, and the case was publicized and became common knowledge. Left-wing political forces issued a declaration decidedly condemning the pogrom. This event shocked public opinion in Poland and became subject to discussions, including press discussions, about the reasons for and background of this unusual and horrifying occurrence, which was against the traditions of our history. This was the position of the Polish left wing.

It goes without saying that in 1946 the Polish left wing did not represent the entire public opinion. It is unfortunate, for example, that at that time the Catholic Church, including the Kielce bishop, did not decide to condemn that pogrom. All that was done was to issue a general appeal for peace in the city. You ask me why that event is not being called a pogrom. Well, I am calling it a pogrom, which does not mean that other names cannot be used. You ask me why this tragedy is not allowed to be mentioned. Well, we recall this event with a great shame. This is now a historical event that took place a very long time ago.

America, whose press you represent, also knows similar events in the more or less distant past, events one could and should be ashamed of. In your country, too, many pogroms organized, among others, by the Ku-Klux-Klan occurred in the past. The same can be said about the homicidal practices committed against North American Indians. More recent examples could also be cited. Black spots are part of history, and whether they are brought back to public attention depends on the present interest and needs.

Those attitudes that could constitute a continuation of the barbaric antisemitism of a criminal group of people in old Kielce do not exist in the Poland of today. Those attitudes that might lead to the events that occurred in Kielce in 1946 no longer exist. The Catholic Church's stand has also changed favorably. I think that precisely because such attitudes are absent, journalists do not feel it necessary to publicize this old event for any purpose now, including the purpose of education. Naturally, this is only my view.

Gulio Gelibter, ANSA: I would like to ask two questions. What will happen to the Poles who were recently denied entry to Italy and were sent back to Poland? Second, does Poland intend to establish full diplomatic relations with Albania, and are any talks being held on this subject?

Urban: I will answer the second question first, because the first one will require a longer statement. Poland is interested in an improvement in relations with Albania, and when this interest is mutual, diplomatic relations might also be raised to a higher level. This depends on circumstances and the wishes of both sides. Diplomatic relations have existed at the ambassadorial level for a long time already. I was thinking of relations in general. I will explain this matter in greater detail, because I have two groups of advisers who are providing me with different facts. I apologize for the inefficiency... So, we have full diplomatic relations at the ambassadorial level.

The Italian affair. You asked about what will happen to the Polish citizens who have just been turned away at the Italian border and have been sent back to Poland. Nothing will happen to them. I do not understand what you mean. What should happen to them? They are Polish citizens and they will live in Poland normally or, perhaps they will go on some other trip. But the affair has much wider implications and I will treat it in the broader terms that are appropriate.

There are a certain number of Polish travellers in Italy who are trying to obtain the right to permanent residence or seeking to leave Italy and go to other Western countries. They are applying for political asylum, but there are no grounds for granting them asylum because they were not persecuted in Poland. And this issue is being discussed in the press, Italian politicians are making statements on the subject, and the Italian Government is debating the matter. I would like to say that there is work in Poland for every Pole, that everyone has an opportunity to obtain an education, to achieve more, to improve their standard of living and arrange their lives in a satisfactory way. Poland needs young minds and young hands. I think that a patriotic attachment to one's country, its future development and its needs are all elements that should discourage young people from looking for opportunities abroad, just because if you find work there you can generally earn more and in a better currency.

Against this background, that of the Polish tourists in Italy who are trying to establish a life outside Poland, John Paul II expressed the belief that a Pole's place is in Poland.

Some states are experiencing difficulties with an excessive number of Poles who would like to earn hard currency. I would say the following: States that create political inducements for emigrating from Poland by, inter alia, their biased assessments of the situation in Poland and their propaganda about how bad things are in Poland and how good they are in the West should not be surprised that they find themselves having problems with young people who have believed them and now expect help, work, and relief assistance, or simply want to have an interesting vacation whose costs are borne by Western social welfare programs.

Reports have also appeared in the Western press, in the Italian press for example, charging that it is too easy to

leave Poland and the result is that foreign governments find themselves having problems. Some commentaries state outright that Poland's liberal passport policy is an inducement to emigrate.

I state that we will not impose restrictions on foreign travel and that we will not make it more difficult to obtain passports; that is our policy, that is how Poland understands human rights, and that is how we interpret the CSCE Final Act. The Polish authorities will not only maintain their current passport policy, but will also consider making it easier to obtain passports. Every Pole who has left the country may return, irrespective of how long he has been abroad and for what reasons, and whether he has renewed the validity of his passport or not. If he has committed no violation of the criminal code there is nothing for which he will be held to account. I state this categorically.

However, the events that took place at Rome Airport yesterday cannot be disregarded. Of the 63 Polish tourists who were travelling in "Orbis" and "Turysta" parties — these firms organize excursions of this kind — only 12 were allowed to enter Italy and 51 of them, although they possessed valid Italian visas and sufficient funds to support themselves, were sent back to Poland. Our tourists charged that in Rome they were watched by policemen with dogs and that they were treated in a manner that was an affront to their dignity. I state most forcefully that Poland will not remain indifferent to the degrading and insulting treatment of Polish citizens. This applies to the way in which all Polish citizens, not only genuine tourists but also those who have displayed disloyalty toward their own country by seeking political asylum or by trying to cut themselves off from their native country in some other way, are treated. The citizen who makes a mistake — generally, a mistake of this kind only lasts a short time — remains a Polish citizen and he has the right to receive assistance from the Polish authorities and support from the Polish state.

Sabaa Al Dear, *Al Baath*, Syria: Minister, how do you assess the current tense situation in the Persian Gulf in view of the presence of a U.S. fleet in the region?

Urban: The Polish authorities view the escalation of the situation in the region with disquiet. We are in favor of a peaceful settlement of the Iran-Iraq conflict. We support peace intiatives aimed at achieving this. We are disturbed by the growing military presence of the United States and certain other Western countries in this sensitive region, because it leads to an internationalization and worsening of the conflict, rather than to an improvement in the situation.

Bengt Scotland, Polish radio: I have two questions. The press recently reported that efforts are being made to use the funds that the church has received for a so-called agricultural foundation. Do you have any comments to make about this? Second, I have a question that is totally unrelated to this subject, but nevertheless interests me very much. It concerns the position of the Polish authorities with regard to the very tense situation on the border between Chad and Libya, and concerns relations between Chad and Libya in general.

Urban: The church has at its disposal certain gifts in the form of foreign currency and, in order to use these funds and funds that it has been promised, it has proposed the establishment of a foundation designed to supply the countryside with water. It has already submitted a draft statute for the foundation. One can expect both sides to meet shortly in order to discuss the draft statute. However, in order to prevent progress in this work form being held up, the authorities have agreed to exempt donations from customs duty, to exempt items that have been cashed from taxation, and to exempt imported machinery from customs duty. It is a question of temporary measures taken by the church, of the temporary use of the sums that the church has at its disposal for the benefit of agriculture. Today's press carries a statement on this subject by Wieslaw Mlynarczyk, vice minister of agriculture; on this subject; it contains more details, although it contains no information on matters relating to the foundation that I have spoken about.

The second question: Recently there have been disturbing reports about fighting on the Chadian-Libyan border in the Aozo region. The fighting was initiated by the Chadian side despite the clear decisions reached at the summit conference of the Organization of African Unity held in Addis Ababa last July, which envisaged the establishment of a special committee by the organization that would mediate in the process of finding a peaceful solution to the issues at the center of the dispute between Libya and Chad. The attack launched by Chadian troops could only have taken place with outside help and a conflict caused in this way could only serve the interests of the forces of imperialism and neocolonialism. It runs counter to Chad's real interests, because it only delays chances of a restoration of domestic order in that country that is based on agreement between all Chadian forces. The fighting has resulted in a significant increase in tension in the region, which threatens security on the African continent, and diverts attention from Africa's main problems, such as the elimination of apartheid in the Republic of South Africa or the question of Namibian independence.

Poland is firmly opposed to the use of military means to solve disputes. It supports the just and political settlement of regional conflicts. Problems that arise between African states should be solved by Africans themselves, without outside interference. That is the essence of the Polish position. I have more to say on the subject of Albania: There are embassies in both countries and the representations are headed by charges d'affaires. I apologize; what I first said on the subject was correct; I was wrongly corrected and accepted the suggestion made by one of my advisers. Poland favors the expansion of cooperation with Albania in all fields, which includes the full normalization of relations and the raising of their status to the level of ambassador. So everything I said was correct, with the exception of the inaccurate information provided later about there being ambassadors.

Renata Marsch, *DPA*: I have two additional questions. Did the people who were sent back from Rome have return tickets. Because if they were travelling with "Orbis" or "Turysta" then they would surely have had return tickets? Second, does what you said mean that these people will have their passports returned to them when they apply to travel to Germany, France, or somewhere else? That is one matter. The second matter concerns the agricultural foundation. The U.S. Congress has donated $10,000,000 that must be used by 30 September. Is there a hope that the government and the church will reach agreement about the foundation's statute by that date?

Urban: Some misunderstanding surrounds every one of these questions. Questions about the types of tickets that people had must be addressed to the people concerned themselves and not to the government spokesman. However, I did speak about excursions to Italy and those taking part in them. Of course, as is the case everywhere in the world, people going on excursions pay the full cost of an excursion, which includes the cost of the return journey. This applies to the two groups I spoke about, and as I said 12 persons were allowed to enter Italy and 50 odd were turned back. However, I cannot, of course, know anything about the tickets that other people were supplied with, those who are at the center of those strange events that are taking place in Italy. Every case might be different. Polish Consulates always try to facilitate the return home of Poles who wish to come back.

Does what I have said mean that these people will receive their passports? I have nothing at all to do with issuing passports, and nobody in Poland deals with issuing passports on a collective or some form of group basis. Therefore, I cannot say whether those persons who went abroad, wanted to stay, and were returned, or who thought things over and decided to return will receive their passports or not. However, I did say in a general sense that in Poland the fact that someone decided to seek happiness elsewhere in the world does not entail any negative consequences, irrespective of how someone has settled formalities with Polish diplomatic missions.

Finally, the question of the church's funds and the foundation. It is hard for me to predict how long the talks on the subject of the foundation will last because how long the talks between two sides last depends on the two sides. It is not always the case that every side can say in advance how long it imagines or intends talks to last. However, you probably did not understand the nature of the existing state of affairs. As a result of all the concessions that have been introduced, the church can spend the sums that it has for purposes that do not require a foundation or talks on the subject of a foundation. An example of this is agricultural education and, as far as I know, the allocation of church funds to agricultural schools. So funds can be used, regardless of the course of talks on the subject of the foundation that is to deal with supply of water.

Ilija Marinkovic, *Politika*: I listened carefully to what you said about the Polish Government's duty to protect the rights and responsibilities of Polish tourists. I have always believed that tourism should serve to bring the peoples of the world closer together. Meanwhile, the Polish press recently started a campaign against so-called phony tourists. There are cases of foreign visitors being depicted in a very intolerant manner even chauvinistic way. For example, someone representing a rather low class hotel spoke about the dirt and rubbish left behind by foreign tourists, not to mention other examples. Do you not think that a campaign of this kind can be damaging to friendship between peoples, and even harm the view of the Poles as a hospitable and tolerant people? If it is true that speculators only account for a small proportion of tourists — official statistics state that a small percentage engage in illegal trading — then why is it not possible to leave this problem up to the responsible institutions and find a better solution?

Urban: I see that you are not an advocate of the freedom to publish and to criticize. I do not find an attitude of this kind completely unfamiliar and uncongenial. But being serious, I would reply: In our part of the world in a broad sense, which therefore includes Yugoslavia, during the latest tourist season the press in most countries has written in unflattering terms about tourists from friendly countries. The Yugoslav press has written in such terms about Polish tourists, their tendency to engage in trade, and even cheat. Reports on this topic are colorful and I do not doubt that they are true. This also applies to other friendly countries. The topics that journalists take up tend to be infectious and I think it is possible that our journalists have taken up the subject of tourism and wrongdoing more so than in the past, and have related accounts of the misdeeds committed by tourists visiting Poland. I do not think that it would be right for us, the government, to suggest the concluding of international agreements to silence the press in the name of friendship between peoples. We are living in different times.

We, the government, intend to regulate various aspects of tourism so that the pathological behavior that attends the mass movement of people from country to country is not a predominant trend, and so that it does not cause sensations. We propose to approach this matter as calmly as we approach articles that depict Poles unfavorably. But I cannot imagine any of the Yugoslav peoples being treated in a chauvinistic way by the Polish press. It is difficult to link the example of a hotelier complaining about the mess left behind by tourists to any kind of chauvinism.

John Daniszewski, AP: I have two questions. In your reply on George Bush's visit, you said that it will be or is expected to be a sign of a normalization in relations between Poland and the United States. In connection with this improvement, do you expect ambassadors to be exchanged? If so, can one expect this exchange during the next few weeks or perhaps during George Bush's visit itself, and what is the schedule concerning further features of Polish-U.S. relations? My second question concerns the two Danish citizens accused of spying. Could

you tell us a little more? Could you say why the accusations against them have been harshened and for what intelligence agency they are alleged to have worked, and when they will be tried?

Urban: I once said that the Polish and U.S. sides have both expressed a desire to exchange ambassadors and that there are no fundamental obstacles to this, if we understand the U.S. side correctly. The only question is when this exchange will occur. And this I cannot foresee right now. I hope Vice President Bush's visit will provide a positive stimulus to comprehensive progress in Polish-U.S. relations. The exchange of ambassadors which has basically already been decided upon is a part of the progress in mutual relations.

And now I hasten to satisfy your interest in the two Danes. Investigations into their case have been carried out by the Investigations Department of the Koszalin Voivodship Internal Affairs Office, under the supervision of the Military Garrison Prosecutor's Office. The Danes who have been detained are Jens Ellekar (I do not know if I am pronouncing it right, but I am doing so the way it would be in Polish), a 36-year old unemployed man; and Niels Hemmingsen, a 22-year old man and a student at Copenhagen University. I have already said that they are accused of spying against Poland, involving a sentence of not less than 5 years in prison. Right now the case records are with the court, and the trial is expected to take place in early September, but the date has not been established yet. The court has yet to do so. I merely suppose that that is when the trial will start, for I cannot give an exact date. Ellekar and Hemmingsen were arrested while photographing a military airfield on the Coast. They were carrying specialized photographic equipment with a large reserve of films, and had detailed maps of Poland covering the Coast, with military installations marked on them. Films containing photographs of military units were taken from them. During their hearing, they explained and of course signed a statement saying that they were intelligence cooperators and had performed espionage tasks in Poland under instructions from an intelligence agency, having deliberately penetrated selected military premises.

In view of the fact that the evidence is incontestable, the reaction of a part of the Danish press is surprising. The Danish press is taking advantage of the arrest of the two Danes in order to formulate unfavorable commentaries about Poland. From these commentaries, one receives the impression that the Polish side is at fault, whereas in fact we have criminal activity committed in Poland by two foreign citizens.

Our authorities have displayed good will since the very beginning of this affair. Contacts with Denmark's diplomatic representatives in Poland have been maintained, and the Danish consul and ambassador have been allowed to visit the two arrested Danes. The Danish ambassador's last meeting with them was on 14 August and lasted about 2 hours. During these meetings the Danish side voiced no reservations or comments about the way in which the meetings were being held or the way in which the detainees were being treated. On the contrary, they conveyed official thanks and hoped that this affair would not interfere with the further development of Polish-Danish relations. During the investigations, Ellekar and Hemmingsen availed themselves of all the rights applicable to people in temporary custody, such as regular medical care and access to books and the press. Of course, they also have the right to a defense. They are being defended by a defense counsel selected by the Danish Consulate in Szczecin. He has already acquainted himself with the records of the case and the indictment.

Gemma Aizpitarte [reporter affiliation not published]: Mr Minister, the Polish press has said that most employees in the state economy accept the idea of compensation for a workplace if an employee terminates his employment there. Could you give details? After all, the OPZZ has objected to such a major restriction of workers rights to be contained in the new labor code proposed by the government.

Urban: Look madam, I cannot reply to some press statement, nor can I know what press item is involved and what it said. I spoke on this subject last week, and gave an extensive description of society's reaction to the new draft labor code. I said that the reaction was varied, and that the reaction of workers toward that part of the code you ask about, in other words the disciplining of workers, was mostly critical and negative. That is the conclusion reached during a discussion held by the Labor Ministry. Journalists can make their own assessments, of course. I also clearly said that the results of this discussion are being worked out right now. Next, the ministry will adopt a stance vis-a-vis these results, and place it before the government, after which the government itself will relate to these results, make suitable changes to the draft, submit the changes to the OPZZ, and so on.

Janusz Grochowski, *Zolnierz Wolnosci*: My question also concerns contacts between the friendly states. Information has appeared lately about environmental damage in the Bielsko-Biala Voivodship caused by the spraying of forests by our southern neighbors. Have the authorities begun to investigate this matter?

Urban: Yes. Lukasz Balcer, Polish Government plenipotentiary concerning implementation of the agreement on air protection, has asked the equivalent plenipotentiary of the Czechoslovak Government to investigate. In reply to the news about contamination in Bielsko-Biala Voivodship, the Czechoslovak side said that a forest enterprise had been treating areas of forest with lime to the south of Babia Gora. They said how this had been done, and added that such treatment could not have caused any such damage, and no other operations involving aircraft had been carried out in that area.

This applies to Slovakia, and Poland's border with the Slovak Socialist Republic. Now we are waiting for information concerning areas adjoining the Czech Republic.

Information is being gathered in that area right now. The relevant department of our Ministry of Environmental Protection asked the voivodship's health research station to conduct tests. These tests have shown that the last time forests on the Polish side of the border were sprayed was in May. Water and soil samples taken in July did not show the presence of any pesticides. Food and soil samples did not reveal any poisoning caused by plant protection agents. Now samples are being tested for the presence of heavy metals. Since 6 August there have been no complaints from local residents and holidaymakers about illnesses. The conclusion was therefore drawn that the source of the illnesses suffered by the scouts from Gdansk lay in the area of Zawoj-Widla, which issued the alarm that poisoning of the air had occurred and that water contaminated with bacteria had been used for economic and consumption purposes. Our authorities took this opportunity to present various requests to the Czechoslovak side concerning the system of information about forest protection activity and the chemical agents used. No doubt, as a result of this there should be no such conjecture in future, and it should be possible to react in a suitable way toward the use of chemicals abroad.

Marek Kassa, Polish radio: Our press has written a lot lately about Polish women in the FRG being forced into crime. Has the Polish Government any information?

Urban: We know about this only from the Polish and foreign press, just as you do. We have had no official information from victims, and the press has also written about killings. However, our prosecutor-general has applied via the foreign ministry to the FRG authorities for more detailed information, following the receipt of which it will be decided whether or not to commence criminal proceedings in Poland. All that we know right now comes from press reports. We are waiting for some official information.

Renate Marsch, DPA: Professor Bonczak, the government AIDS plenipotentiary, said on television that the AIDS virus had been detected in four blood donors and that it is very difficult to identify blood from these people. Can one suppose that today in Poland blood is taken from people who have been tested for AIDS?

Urban: From what Professor Bonczak said in another interview for the press it transpires that such a rule has been adopted, namely that all blood donors, and there are about 1 million of them, will be tested for AIDS.

John Daniszewski, AP: I wonder if the government intends to celebrate the Gdansk and Szczecin accords in some way, and what your thoughts are concerning this anniversary, Mr Minister.

Urban: Celebrations are foreseen, this anniversary will not be passed over in silence. However, I will gladly tell you what my personal thoughts are when we meet for a coffee. I am here in a different role to that of a private thinker. By that, I do not mean that I am in the role of an idiot.

Presidium Assesses Plan Fulfillment

AU031656 Warsaw RZECZPOSPOLITA in Polish 1 Sep 87 pp 1, 2

[Text] PAP — The Government Press Office reports that the Government Presidium assessed the implementation of the Central Annual Plan on 31 August.

The economic results obtained by the end of July confirm the existence of positive changes and trends in the economy. The value of socialized industry's sold production increased by 3.4 percent during this period, compared with a 3 percent increase envisaged by the Central Annual Plan. There has been a varied expansion of production in individual branches of the economy. However, changes in the production structure have generally been positive and have been in line with the direction of the National Socioeconomic Plan. The highest rate of increase was scored by the electrical engineering industry (7.6 percent), by precision instruments (12.6 percent), and engineering (10 percent). The output of the fuel and energy industry is in line with the plan. The chemical industry has scored results lower than those originally envisaged, this is primarily due to insufficient supplies of raw materials. Progress in accomplishing housing construction tasks is also unsatisfactory.

This year's harvest is 2 weeks late and conditions are more difficult than a year ago. It is estimated that this year's crop of basic grains will be about the same as last year. As a result of losses sustained during the winter, this year's fruit crop will be lower than a year ago. This year has seen no further increase in the rate at which pig production has been growing, there has also been a decline in the rate at which livestock production has been increasing. Although there has been a decrease in the number of dairy cattle, milk purchases have increased due to a higher lactation yield.

There has been an improvement in managerial efficiency. Labor productivity has risen in both industry and agriculture, and consumption of raw materials per unit of production has fallen. However, these generally positive developments have not infrequently been accompanied by a decline in standards of quality. The economy's energy consumption rose — particularly during the first quarter of 1987 — as result of poor weather conditions.

Positive changes are taking place in the structure of foreign trade. Exports — particularly of electrical engineering, mineral, and light industry products — chiefly destined for capitalist countries, have risen more rapidly than planned. However, coal sales are declining. The level of supplies of imports indicate that there has been a fall in the economy's consumption of imports and this cannot be viewed entirely positively. This frequently hampers the attainment of higher product quality and better technical and utility standards.

The situation with regard to the attainment of market equilibrium must also be deemed unfavorable. The situation is marked by a significantly higher than planned rate of increase in the population's income. There continues to be a lack of equilibrium in the non-foodstuffs market. There is a greater degree of equilibrium in the foodstuffs market, but there still continue to be shortages of certain items.

The high pay increases awarded during the first 7 months of this year indicate that not all enterprises have tailored their pay policies to suit the instruments for effecting pay increase discipline that were introduced this year. The granting of high pay increases in enterprises in which output has actually fallen must be considered particularly negative. This kind of situation has arisen in 1,397 enterprises and factories. Output in these plants has fallen by 7.1 percent, whereas pay has risen by 17.4 percent. The higher rate of taxation on supernumerary pay awards that is to be introduced at the end of the 3d quarter in accordance with the provisions of the Central Annual Plan means that many of these enterprises will lose creditworthiness.

The economic performance results obtained during the first 7 months of this year indicate that the tasks contained in the Central Annual Plan will be accomplished. In many areas of industry — particularly electrical and precision engineering — tasks will be surpassed to a significant degree. In others — for example, the paper, timber and mineral industries, output might not reach the planned level. The higher than planned increase in the output of the fuel and energy industry will result from an increase in the demand for energy that is higher than originally projected.

The progress in attaining money-market equilibrium envisaged by the plan is being jeopardized by the high rate of increase in the population's income, which is chiefly due to enterprises' awarding pay increases that are not justified by economic performance.

The Government Presidium emphasized the need for enterprises to heed the growth indicator of the wages fund. An increase in productivity, a reduction in material-intensiveness, an improvement in quality, and the modernization of production are essential in order to fulfill the tasks of this year's Central Annual Plan.

Next, the Government Presidium heard a report on the implementation of opinions and petitions voiced by voters during the Sejm election.

State administrative bodies at all levels had received over 50,000 such opinions and petitions. Most of them were about the food economy, medical care, communal services, and housing, as well as social welfare, environmental protection, social pathology, trade, services, and education.

The opinions were analyzed and the exact possibilities of implementing them determined. Since the election 2 years ago, over half the petitions received have been implemented. Some are still being implemented, and others have had to be left until a later date because of the limited possibilities of implementing them.

The majority of opinions sent to regional state administrative bodies concerned refurbishing property, investments, and modernization. There were also demands for better equipment for health, education, and cultural premises. These demands are being considered for inclusion in subsequent annual plans and budgets of people's councils. It was established that the resources available should first be allocated to performing the tasks called for in petitions from voters. So far, 52 schools; 11 day nurseries; 17 houses of culture, recreation halls, and farmers' clubs; 6 hospitals; 12 clinics; and 5 pharmacies have been either built, modernized, or refurbished. Some 104 road improvements have been carried out. Some 72 water pipelines and 5 sewage disposal plants have also been completed.

A considerable part of these tasks was carried out with the cooperation of local residents as part of the social pledge program.

The Government Presidium acknowledged that the rate at which voters' petitions are dealt with is unsatisfactory. It placed state administrative bodies at all levels under an obligation to continue to analyze petitions and opinions as they arrive, and to implement them in full, as far as objective possibilities permit.

Next, the Government Presidium heard a report on the performance of tasks involving the development of national education. These tasks were contained in the 24th PZPR Central Committee Plenum resolution, designed to develop a qualitatively new pattern of national education capable of meeting the requirements of the 21st century in all spheres of social and economic life.

Work on a future higher education development program is continuing. This program is meant to lay down precise research topics for colleges, make maximum and effective use of the existing scientific and technical potential of colleges, and permit the broadest possible exchange of experience between colleges at home and abroad. The research work of colleges will be coordinated with the needs of the national economy as far as possible. College research programs will be drawn up. The number of laboratories equipped with the most modern apparatus will increase.

A future pattern of general education is being developed. Steps have been taken toward solving fundamental problems of general and secondary education, such as satisfying the needs of teaching cadres, altering the methods and curricula for the training of teachers, and supplying educational establishments with modern teaching aids. The number of specialized teaching posts in colleges has been increased,

more colleges are now offering 2-year teacher training courses, and it has been made possible for students in colleges of agriculture, economics, and technology who want to enter education to receive the necessary extra training. The first stage of reviewing the teaching curriculum in primary schools has been completed. Tasks are now being performed to rapidly improve supplies of teaching aids in schools and colleges. In the next few years it is foreseen that there will be considerably greater resources for this purpose. In particular, there will be more money for microcomputers.

Under Secretary for Metallurgy Recalled
LD031805 Warsaw PAP in English 1348 GMT 3 Sep 87

[Text] Warsaw, Sept 3: Following the motion of the minister of metallurgy and the engineering industry, Premier Zbigniew Messner recalled Stanislaw Stanczykiewicz from the post of undersecretary of state in that ministry in connection with the latter's transition to another post.

The premier decided to reduce the post of undersecretary of state to simplify the ministry's management structure.

Ceausescu Receives Poland's Siwicki

AU031840 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1740 GMT 3 Sep 87

[Text] Bucharest, AGERPRES, 03/09/1987 — On Thursday, September 3, Nicolae Ceausescu, general secretary of the Romanian Communist Party, president of Romania, supreme commander of the Armed Forces, received Army General Florian Siwicki, minister of national defence of the Polish People's Republic, now on a visit to Romania. The guest was accompanied by Lt.Gen. Tadeusz Szacilo head of the High Political Direction of the Polish Army.

On the occasion, President Nicolae Ceausescu awarded Poland's national defence minister the order of Tudor Vladimirescu, first class, and the head of the High Political Direction of the Polish Army the Order of Tudor Vladimirescu, Second Class, as an expression of the friendly relations between the two countries, between the Armies of Romania and Poland.

The Polish minister thanked for the high distinctions awarded, stressing that they were an expression of the brotherhood in arms of the Polish People's Army and the Armed Forces of Romania, of the willingness to further develop them.

President Nicolae Ceausescu was conveyed a warm salute and the best wishes from Wojciech Jaruzelski, first secretary of the CC of the PUWP, president of the Council of State of the Polish People's Republic.

President Nicolae Ceausescu thanked and requested that Wojciech Jaruzelski be conveyed warm greetings and wishes of health and happiness, of progress and welfare for the friendly Polish people.

During the interview stress was laid on the traditional links of friendship and fruitful cooperation between the two parties, countries and peoples which witnessed a steadily upward course in the spirit of the talks and understandings covenanted during the summit dialogue in Bucharest and Warsaw. It was assessed that the continuously growing potential of the two countries' economies provided broad possibilities of further expanding and diversifying Romanian-Polish relations, more particularly cooperation in production, technical, scientific and other cooperation. Emphasis was also placed on the significance of strengthening the collaboration between the Romanian and Polish armies.

Aspects of the current international life were approached and stress was laid on the need to do everything possible to achieve nuclear and conventional disarmament, to reduce military spending — the huge financial resources thus released being used for the socioeconomic development of each country, of the developing countries more particularly — establish a climate of peace, understanding and broad cooperation in the world.

The interview was attended by Col. Gen. Vasile Milea, minister of national defence and Lt. Gen. Ilie Ceausescu, deputy minister and secretary of the High Political Command of the Armed Forces.

Ceausescu Chairs PEC Meeting 3 Sep

AU031942 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1903 GMT 3 Sep 87

[Text] Bucharest, AGERPRES, 03/09/1987 — Thursday, September 3, RCP General Secretary Nicolae Ceausescu chaired a meeting of the Executive Political Committee of the CC of the RCP.

Attending were members of the government, management staff in the economy, first secretaries and secretaries in charge of economic affairs of county party committees, general managers of central departments and central research institutes.

The Executive Political Committee debated reports on the fulfilment of the plan for August and measures for the fulfilment of the plan provisions for September and the third quarter of 1987; on the plan tasks for the fourth quarter and for 1987; on actions for the drafting of programmes of additional measures to make up for arrears and achieve the productivity planned for 1987; on the programme for recovering the excess expenditure in the first half of 1987 and observing the production costs planned for 1987.

Members of the Executive Political Committee, first deputy prime ministers, deputy prime ministers, ministers, managers of central departments and first secretaries of party county committees took the floor on those reports highlighting both the successes scored as to the same period last year and the shortcomings manifest in the activity of ministries, central departments and economic units.

RCP General Secretary Nicolae Ceausescu took the floor at the end of the debates on those reports. The speaker showed that firm measures should be taken to make up for the arrears without delay so that starting September quantitative, qualitative and plan indicators be exemplarily fulfilled, physical production be turned out integrally.

The party general secretary requested that pride of place be given to export and export production, to fastly liquidating shortfalls still manifest in this domain, a larger volume of export production being turned out.

Export is the problem number one and should arrest the attention of ministries, central departments, party bodies and organizations, all working collectivities, President Nicolae Ceausescu stressed, and if responsible action is taken in a high spirit of order and discipline, in the following months, starting September, a bigger export production will be turned out as the plan stipulates, so that the tasks set for this year in this field be fulfilled.

During the meeting President Nicolae Ceausescu drew attention to the unsatisfactory situation in investment and requested that the following four months should see a faster pace of building-assembly operations, a better organization of work on building sites and an efficient

utilization of the work time with a view to making up for arrears and commissioning the planned units on time, and attaining the technical and economic parameters approved with all productive units.

As for the high material consumptions in almost all the branches of the national economy — constructions included — President Nicolae Ceausescu drew again attention that all measures should be taken to ensure the observance of the consumption norms set, and their further lowering.

As far as productivity was concerned it was recommended that all necessary steps be taken for a proper course of production, strengthened order and discipline, most efficient utilization of the technical and material groundwork, of the work time, a steadily better professional training of the working personnel.

Stressing the importance of fulfilling the tasks set in all those areas President Nicolae Ceausescu requested the ministries, central departments, enterprises, planning, technical-material supply and financial-banking bodies, just as party bodies and organizations to work most responsibly to make up for all arrears and strictly abide by plan provisions.

The Executive Political Committee decided that the programmes of measures for making up for arrears in productivity, recovering excess material consumption and production costs and for fulfilling the plan provisions for the fourth quarter in good conditions be finalized according to recommendations made during the meeting and become compulsory for all economic units, central departments and ministries in their future activity for fulfilling this year's and the whole five-year plan.

Next, the Executive Political Committee analysed and approved the report on cereal and other crops harvested in the summer of 1987 as well as the report on the estimation of autumn crops, of the 1987 hervest.

It was assessed that a satisfactory farm output has been achieved which, although is smaller than planned, is better than that of 1986 and ensures the necessary supplies for the population and meets the national economy requirements. Thus, the summer cereal crop is almost 25 per cent bigger than last year. A larger number of counties and units have turned out bigger wheat and barley productions on the whole area under crop.

As for autumn crops, according to the data presented, it results that — although weather conditions have been less favourable this year in several zones — many counties will obtain good maize, sunflower, soya, sugar beat, potato crops, large crops in vegetable-growing, viticulture, in the sectors of plant production in general.

The party general secretary requested that all measures be taken if a timely and without-loss harvesting, for a proper performance of all autumn agricultural works, for a good preparation of the new year's production.

BRIEFS

Midia Canal Progress

Bucharest, AGERPRES, 3/9/1987 — Work goes on at a steady pace in the Poarta Alba-Midia Navodari building site. At kilometer 15.3, where the Ovidiu lock stands, water was introduced upstream. The moment marks the crowning of an intense activity deployed by workers and experts determined to finish this important objective as soon as possible. Up to now, from the 30 km of the new navigation water thoroughfare which branches off the Danube-Black Sea Canal to reach Midia harbour, about 20 km are finished. All seven road and railway bridges have been commissioned, and the assembly equipment and mechanical and electric installations of the locks at Ovidiu and Navodari are in an advanced state. In order to speed up the work pace, human forces and mechanical means were concentrated for excavations in hard rock zones and the protection works of support walls. [Text] *[Bucharest AGERPRES in English 0930 GMT 3 Sep 87 AU]*

Romania, Bulgaria To Attend Balkan Forum

LD031830 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1208 GMT 3 Sep 87

[Text] Belgrade, September 3 (TANJUG) — Romanian and Bulgarian foreign ministers Jon Totu and Petar Mladenov have positively replied to Yugoslavia's initiative to organise a meeting of Balkan foreign ministers in Yugoslavia, Yugoslav government spokesman ambassador Aleksander Stanic said at today's news conference in Belgrade.

Answering a question on preparations for the Balkan countries' conference, Stanic specified that Totu and Mladenov informed Yugoslav Foreign Secretary Raif Dizdarevic of their countries' stand in written replies to his letter.

Recalling that the Yugoslav initiative has been accepted by Turkey and Greece, Stanic said consultations on the Balkan countries' conference continue.

Spokesman Holds Press Conference 3 Sep

Addresses 'Deterioration' in Gulf

LD031445 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1205 GMT 3 Sep 87

[Text] Belgrade, September 3 (TANJUG) — Yugoslavia follows with concern the further deterioration of the situation in the Gulf which is the result of the continuation of the Iran-Iraq war and the increasing presence of warships and other military potential of the big powers in the waters of the Gulf, Yugoslav Government spokesman Aleksandar Stanic told a regular press conference in Belgrade today.

He assessed that the current escalation of tension in the region makes it possible for the situation to get out of control, which would directly jeopardize security not only in the Gulf countries but also peace and stability in the world.

Stanic recalled that since the war broke out, Yugoslavia has urged, as it will continue to do, a peaceful end to the Iraq-Iran war.

In this context, he set out, Yugoslavia upholds the U.N. Security Council resolution of July 20 this year, which calls for an urgent end to hostilities and war operations, and a comprehensive, honorable and just solution to the conflict.

Expresses Support for ANC

LD031834 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1213 GMT 3 Sep 87

[Text] Belgrade, September 3 (TANJUG) — African National Congress (ANC) President Oliver Tambo's visit to Yugoslavia represents another affirmation of Yugoslavia's principled stand and support to the ANC and other liberation movements and frontline countries in Africa's south in the just struggle for the elimination of the apartheid system, Yugoslav government spokesman Ambassador Aleksandar Stanic stressed at today's press conference in Belgrade.

The visit, Stanic emphasized, also demonstrates Yugoslavia's solidarity with all peoples in Africa's South deprived of their rights, in their decades-long struggle for freedom and the preservation of gained independence.

Stanic said that this also manifests Yugoslavia's support and engagement in the effort of Africa, the movement of non-alignment and the entire progressive international community to find just and long-term solutions to the whole complex of problems confronting Africa's South as one of the currently most dangerous crisis spots in the world.

2,000 Serbs, Montenegrins Gather in Dubrava

LD031958 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1753 GMT 3 Sep 87

[Text] Istok, 3 Sep (TANJUG) — Over 2,000 Serbs and Montenegrins came to a gathering in the village of Dubrava near the Istok mun cipality at about 1800 this evening, which was planned 3 days ago. Five hundred residents of this and other villages had expressed indignation then because of the brutal behavior of a group of young Muslims belonging to the Memic and Skrelja families, who had beaten up the Rajic brothers a week ago. Firearms had been used in the conflict but luckily no one was injured.

The gathering of Serbs and Montenegrins rejected the proposal of the muncipal leadership to disperse quietly. While we are reporting this speakers from many parts of Kosovo are taking the floor one after after another in front of the house of culture, speaking about the misfortunes of the Serbian and Montenegrin population in this province.

The gathering is attended by Zoran Andjelkovic, member of the Serbian LC Central Committee Presidium; Petar Vujinic, chairman of the LCY Central Committee Commission for Petitions and Complaints; Dragoljub Cosic, member of the Serbian Executive Committee; Dzumret Seljmani, member of the Kosovo LC Provincial Committee Presidium; and Agim Bektesi, member of the Kosovo SAWP Provincial Conference Presidium.

Protest Violent Behavior

AU031810 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1700 GMT 3 Sep 87

[Text] More than 2,000 Serbs and Montenegrins gathered tonight at about 1800 in the village of Dubrava in the Istok commune in Kosovo. This protest meeting was announced 3 days ago when 500 inhabitants of this and surrounding villages protested against the violent behavior of a group youngsters of Moslem nationality from the Memic and Skrelja families who about a week ago beat up the Rajic brothers.

The gathered Serbs and Montenegrins rejected the communal leadership's call to disperse and loudly protested against mild sentences given to those responsible for the fight. While we are giving this report, many people from various parts of Kosovo are taking floor and talking about the grievances of Serbs and Montenegrins in this province.

Kosovo Soldier Murders 5, Commits Suicide

LD031412 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1244 GMT 3 Sep 87

[Text] Paracin, September 3 (TANJUG) — In the army barracks in the Yugoslav town of Paracin, soldier Aziz Kelmendi, Albanian nationality member from Kosovo, today murdered four soldiers while they were asleep.

In the unprecedented crime another five soldiers were wounded, but their lives are not in danger.

After committing the crime, the murderer, Kelmendi, killed himself, the official statement of the Yugoslav Army says.

The fact that the murderer was a student of Albanian nationality makes the tragedy even graver in view of the difficult situation in Kosovo, the Yugoslav Province where Albanian separatists have been engaged in anti-constitutional activities for years.

Cost of Living Increases 13.9 % in August

LD031921 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1710 GMT 3 Sep 87

[Text] Belgrade, Sept 3 (TANJUG) — The increase in retail prices in Yugoslavia last month pushed up inflation to 116.6 per cent compared with August last year, the Federal Statistical Office announced today.

The rise was caused by an increase in the prices of industrial goods.

Compared with July, August was 11.1 per cent dearer, mostly owing to higher prices for bread, flour, pasta, flour confectionery, fresh meat and milk, fruit, meat and fish preparations.

The cost of living for the month of August was up 13.9 per cent, or 120.4 per cent compared with August 1986.

The increase in living costs was fuelled also by dearer domestic fuels, electricity and transport and postal services.

Further Reportage on Agrokomerc Affair

LCY CC Presidium Comments

LD022140 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1445 GMT 2 Sep

[Text] Belgrade, 2 Sep (TANJUG) — The LCY Central Committee Presidium, at its session yesterday presided over by Bosko Krunic, was acquainted with the assessments and stances of the Bosnia-Hercegovina LC Central Committee Presidium and considered, on the basis of the information submitted by Milan Uzelac, president of the Bosnia-Hercegovina LC Central Committee Presidium, the situation and the great damage done and its consequences. They also considered the immediate ideopolitical tasks involved in resolving the situation that has arisen as a result of the issuance of unsecured bills, a number of violations of the law, and irregularities in the business operations of the Agrokomerc composite organization of associated labor of Velika Kladusa.

It was reported today that the LCY Central Committee Presidium supports the assessments and stances of the Bosnia-Hercegovina LC Central Committee Presidium, its efforts and the determination shown for resolving the problems that have arisen in connection with the situation in the Agrokomerc composite organization of associated labor. The Presidium assessed that the illegal business operations of Agrokomerc have inflicted enormous damage on Yugoslav society as a whole, on the socioeconomic and political system, the development of the country, and in particular on the credit, monetary and financial system, with serious consequences for the implementation of the stabilization program and the development and economic policies. It was stressed that this is a case of crude violation of the policies of the LCY, a drastic display of bureaucratic and technocratic arbitrariness, lawlessness, and the stifling of self-management. These and similar illegal actions undermine and endanger the system of socialist self-management and the political and economic system of the country, and devalue the efforts of the working class and working people to get out of the economic crisis and secure successful material and social development.

The LCY Central Committee Presidium calls for the causes and consequences of the situation created in the Agrokomerc case to be comprehensively and urgently examined and thoroughly established, and for measures of ideopolitical and legal accountability to be taken against all those who participated directly or indirectly in the violations of the law, financial malversation, arbitrariness, stifling of self-management, and other antisocialist and antiself-managing actions; and for the dismissal from responsible posts without delay of all those who allowed such a crude and extensive violation of the regulations to occur.

The agrokomerc case is a drastic example of irresponsible and illegal business activity and behavior. The LCY Central Committee Presidium considers that it is essential through the direct involvement of workers in all organizations of associated labor and sociopolitical communities, in the organs of self-management and the delegate system, and through their activity in the trade unions, the Socialist Alliance, the LC and other sociopolitical organizations, to most decisively expose and crush bureaucratic phenomena and the informal collaboration of technobureaucratic, executive-management and political structures, in which decisions are made illegally on funds and development, cadre policy is monopolized and the rights of self-managers are usurped, thereby inflicting inestimable damage on our socialist society,

endangering our system and the direction of our development, and destroying the policy of stabilization.

The LCY Central Committee Presidium supports the activity of the Bosnia-Hercegovina LC Central Committee Presidium in taking determined measures, in accordance with its own stances and the stances of the LCY Central Committee Presidium, to establish ideopolitical responsibility in the LC and other accountability of all persons and subjects who were directly involved in supporting or tolerating the illegal business operations in Agrokomerc, and to inform the LCY Presidium and Central Committee about this.

The LCY Central Committee Presidium assessed as essential that the competent organs of the Federation, above all the SFRY Assembly, should investigate and establish all the circumstances that led to the drastic violation of the law, the misuse of promissory notes, the damage to the economic and financial system and economic policy of the country, and the threat to the reputation of our economy and country in the world; that they examine the responsibility of the organs and institutions in the Federation and individuals within them in connection with the situation in Agrokomerc, as well as other violations of the law and financial indiscipline, and that they should take measures to guarantee the efficient functioning of the financial system. Such measures should be taken in all republics and provinces. Only by quickly and energetically establishing responsibility can the people's faith in the efficiency of the functioning of the political system be restored.

The Presidium considers that attempts to use the problem of unsecured bills and illegal business operations of Agrokomerc for intranational confrontation and unprincipled confrontation between sociopolitical communities, for insinuations and unfounded attacks on the leadership and individuals, and for closing the market and breaking off business ties with organizations of associated labor in the SR of Bosnia-Hercegovina, are unacceptable and harmful.

Alternative 'Links' Suspected

AU031205 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 27 Aug 87 p 2

[Krste Bijelic commentary: "Umbrella for the Gray System"]

[Excerpts] If the affair of Agrokomerc of Velika Kladusa is smoothed over and suppressed in the style of the saying about locking the stable door, this society should become most seriously concerned about its own fate.

This is the most simplified way in which one can "depict" the reaction caused among common people by the "maneuver" of Velika Kladusa "businessmen" and financial "wizards" — Fikret Abdic and company — who embarked upon the whole "operation" consciously and deliberately, as it is becoming increasingly clear, to obtain money for their megalomanic, extremely egotistic development plans. [passage omitted]

Is it actually possible that the "great financial maneuver" of the Velika Kladusa dignitaries and their ilk will remain unpunished? Our overall experience so far generally demonstrates that not only is this the case, but that it would even be unnatural if they were to be "called to account." In addition to the system that many swear by and are ready to defend, mostly with full justification, to the last drop of their blood, another parallel, much more efficient and stronger system exists in our society. This "gray associated system" (GAS) decides in many points what the spectrum of social and human relations will be; it imparts the color to the economy, to politics, especially cadre politics, and to the rule of law in society; it makes republics into absolutely sovereign and self-sufficient state creations which negotiate with each other, bargain, and often squabble about dividing the cake of power and surplus value. [passage omitted]

And thus, although the "gray associated system" is based neither on sound logic nor on social precepts, it functions flawlessly; with or without support, it does not matter. To put it more precisely, it does not matter whether it has any financial backing and possesses elementary social and economic logic or not. What is important is the political backing. Without it, various Fikret Abdics are like a fish out of water. With it, they are gods and creators. Tens of thousands of plundered billions will be converted into a short-term loan, and that is that.

Abdic is therefore beating his chest: he brought Agrokomerc to this place (obviously with the help of his political backing as his strongest bank), and he — and nobody else (so he says, certainly reckoning with political support again) — will get it out of this situation?!

Our press, which is much louder than the silence of officials, has named a "political name" which, allegedly, was the umbrella for everything that was being done unlawfully and immorally in Agrokomerc and Velika Kladusa. Hakija Pozderac, member of the Council of the Federation, is on the carpet. It is possible that everything being said about him and his role in this unhappy story is true, but indeed, only a naive person may believe that a member of the Council of the Federation has so much (political) power, considering all those "real", active political tycoons in Velika Kladusa, Bosnia-Hercegovina, and the federation.

Hakija Pozderac is a much too unconvincing an "umbrella." Certainly there exist much stronger links in that "gray associated system" under whose auspices Fikret Abdic, Agrokomerc creator, turned 13,500 workers into an army of diligent, but also obedient, silent, and patient day-laborers, who anxiously wait for news from the Adriatic about hay fever and other fevers of their Fikret.

The dud bills of exchange are neither the greatest evil of Agrokomerc and our society, nor are they insurmountable, although they amount to as much as one third of the Yugoslav economy's accumulation, and therefore we cannot leave Agrokomerc workers, the hostages of the credit ruse, in the lurch. How nice it would have been

were Fikret Abdic acting alone and his dud bills of exchange the only violation of the law and norms of this society, as grave as it may be. If it were so, we would also be without that "gray associated system" that help various intertwined circles of tycoons create "new values," and in fact set up economic, political, social, and human relations completely different from the ones inscribed in the Constitution and the LCY Program. [passage omitted]

Banker Defends Officials

AU031917 Belgrade POLITIKA in Serbo-Croatian 31 Aug 87 p 6

[P. Risimovic report: "Makic Did Not Know About Bills Of Exchange"]

[Text] Ljubljana, 30 Aug — Following the recent press conference the Bank of Ljubljana held in connection with the statement made by Metod Rotar, president of the managing board of the Associated Bank of Ljubljana, and which the Yugoslav press wrote about, Rotar issued the following statement for POLITIKA:

"Following the newspaper reports on the press conference we organized regarding the Agrokomerc case, the wrong conclusions have unfortunately been drawn, at least by some people, that Comrades Mato Andric, Josip Lovrenovic, and Zarko Kolenda intervened and expressed the wish for the Ljubljana Bank to continue business cooperation with Agrokomerc, despite the discovery of the commercial bills affair, and that by this they wanted to influence the outcome of the affair.

The fact is that the most responsible comrades from Bosnia and Hercegovina mentioned above did indeed call me in May, when we in the Ljubljana Bank started to check our direct credit relations with Agrokomerc and with all banks with which we had business relations. Some people interpreted our checks, an established bankers' practice, as a signal that the Ljubljana Bank wanted to break off cooperation with Agrokomerc. In our telephone conversation with the above-mentioned comrades we were as usual interested in the creditworthiness of Agrokomerc and its intention to continue our business relations on the same level — of course, on the basis of normal business relations, because otherwise some financial, and later production difficulties could occur. This is why the talks with the above-mentioned comrades cannot possibly by linked with the subsequent discovery of the Agrokomerc affair with bills of exchange, about which, as we stated yesterday, we learned of only on 24 July this year.

I feel particularly obliged to single out from this context my conversation with Radovan Makic, member of the FEC — whom I have known for 25 years, because we worked on similar jobs — who also mentioned Agrokomerc in one of our very frequent talks. I would particularly like to stress that, on the basis of all Comrade Makic's views and ways of behaving, particularly those relating to the time when he was governor of the National Bank of Yugoslavia, I firmly believe that he has always consistently respected the principles of conducting financial and banking affairs. This is why it is impossible to conclude that Comrade Makic knew anything about Agrokomerc's unbacked bills of exchange.

LCY's Istuk Resents Statement

AU031500 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 31 Aug 87 p 1

[M. Maric and TANJUG report: "Kladusa Is Like Skopje and Banja Luka Put Together"]

[Excerpts] Banja Luka, 30 Aug — There is no more urgent obligation for all patriots and honest men who cherish socialism than the obligation to support and help all social efforts for the realization of the economic and development policy's measures everywhere where work is done, Hrvoje Istuk, member of the LCY Central Committee, said today at a large gathering in Stricici on Zmijanje which is traditionally held at this time of the year in the honor of writer and people's tribune Petar Kocic.

Hrvoje Istuk, member of the LCY Central Committee, stressed that "although this is not the right place to say it and although answers and responsible people are still being sought in appropriate organs — which is helped by most of the media's constructive writing — I cannot but say that the unlawful financial transactions by those in charge of Agrokomec have led to enormously damaging economic and political consequences which are probably not smaller than those caused by the earthquakes of the same intensity as those in Skopje and Banja Luka together. But, after earthquakes people rightly expect solidarity, while we should feel ashamed. This is why the president of the Agrokomerc managing board has no right to make the kinds of statements he did, nor does France Popit has the right to say that all the people of Bosnia and Hercegovina steal, and that they even steal for personal use. The Zagreb Bank President Badovinac has no right to give us the kind of lesson he did, nor can this be done by all those in Serbia who have already decided to refuse to accept not only the bills issued by Agrokomerc, but also all bills that originate in Bosnia and Hercegovina," Hrvoje Istuk, member of the LCY Central Committee, said at the gathering in Stricici.

They do not have the right to say this in view of the sweat, work, loans, voluntary contributions, and various other efforts and sacrifices the people of Bosnia and Hercegovina have been making for years in order to improve their as well as Yugoslavia's material development. They do not have the moral right to do that before they tell the people of Yugoslavia what happened to those behind the Koerting affair, the Zagreb's bank dollar affair, and the attempt to appropriate to whole year's amount of money issued by the National Bank of Yugoslavia, and so forth. This "and so forth" is not said in a formal way, nor for the sake of style, for unfortunately it is full of substance. In brief, Agrokomerc is not Bosnia and Hercegovina or its people, Hrvoje Istuk, member of the LCY Central Committee said at the gathering in Stricici.

Slovene LC Rebukes Istuk

AU031550 Ljubljana DELO in Slovene 1 Sep 87 p 1

[Excerpts] Ljubljana, 31 Aug — At its session today, the Presidency of the Central Committee of the LC of Slovenia discussed the case of uncovered bills of exchange and the economic, legal, and moral-political damage caused by it. It is obviously a malpractice of very large proportions, which in the opinion of the Presidency demands a consistent action by Communists and all responsible organs and organizations in Yugoslavia. Numerous requests by LC members, and LC basic organizations and communal organizations and working people from all over Slovenia support this view.

The case of uncovered bills of exchange is a an extremely serious warning of to what intolerable proportions bureaucratic-technocratic collusion between managing, banking, and social control institutions may lead; such collusion is among the chief causes of the malpractice. [passage omitted] Such behavior is directed against our principled decision to pursue economic and social stabilization, and especially financial consolidation and discipline, for responsibility of workers in managing social property, and the respect for economic laws.

The whole extent of the consequences of the Agrokomerc malpractice cannot yet be assessed, but it has had a negative influence on the trust of the people in all state and political institutions, including the LC; it has seriously dented Yugoslavia's international business reputation, and brought mistrust in internal business relations in Yugoslavia. [passage omitted]

Precisely because the Presidium of the Central Committee of the LC of Slovenia is aware that Agrokomerc cannot be equated with the SR of Bosnia-Hercegovina, it stresses that Slovenia knows well all the efforts invested by the working people of that republic for their development and the development of the Yugoslav social community in general. Rash statements by individuals cannot change this fact.

The Presidium of the Central Committee of the LC of Slovenia expresses its confidence in the determination, principled attitude, and ability of the Communists in Agrokomerc and all the LC of Bosnia-Hercegovina to resolve the existing problems with resolute action and to make sure that moral, political, and criminal responsibility of those guilty will be established.

In resolving the situation that has arisen in connection with Agrokomerc, the Presidium warns that it is unacceptable and highly dangerous for the sensitive relations among nationalities and republics in Yugoslavia if one tries to transfer the questions of criminal and financial law, and moral-political questions arising with the issuance of uncovered bills of exchange to the field of relations among nationalities and republics. Therefore, it is of the opinion that Hrvoje Istuk's speech at a mass meeting in Stricici (according to *Tanjug*), when he falsified France Popit's statement, does not contribute in any way to good and successfully developing economic and political relations between Slovenia and Bosnia-Hercegovina, and between the working people of the two republics, nor it does contribute to settling the situation and promoting mutual trust in Yugoslavia as a whole. [passage omitted]

Officials Expelled From LC

LD031923 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1551 GMT 3 Sep 87

[Text] Velika Kladusa, 3 Sep (TANJUG) — The basic LC organization of the work community of the Agrokomerc composite organization of associated labor in Velika Kladusa has expelled Interna Bank Director Alija Alesevic, and Interna Bank Deputy Director Nada Omerdic from the LC membership.

These are the first expulsions from one of the Agrokomerc party organizations following the well-known affair of issuing unsecured bills.